

THE

MONTHLY EPITOME,

For MAY 1798.

XLI. *The Works of Horatio Walpole, Earl of Orford.* 5 vol. royal 4to. pp. 2808. With Plates. vol. 1os. Large Paper 21l. *Robinson, Edwards,*

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EXTRACT FROM THE PREFACE.

"THE edition now offered to the public, of the works of the late Earl of Orford, includes not only the manuscripts bequeathed by his Lordship for publication; but much new matter communicated by himself during his life.

life-time to the editor. It has been still further enriched by the contributions of his executors and others of his friends, who, admiring his epistolary talents, had preserved every line of his writing, and who thought that, by enlarging the collection of his letters, they were adding to a valuable and entertaining present to the public.

"Lord Orford, so early as the year 1768, had formed the intention of printing, and soon after actually began a quarto edition of his works, to which he proposed to add several pieces, both in prose and verse, which he had either not before published, or never acknowledged as his own. A first and part of a second volume printed under his own eye at Strawberry Hill, were already in a state of great forwardness. But his frequent indispositions, and the unimportant light in which, notwithstanding the very flattering reception they had met with from the world, he always persisted in considering his own works, seem to have combined in deterring him from carrying his design into execution.

"The completion of this work he entrusted to the editor, to whom he also bequeathed all the notes, additions, and alterations which he had himself collected and arranged. Lord Orford may, therefore, still be considered as his own editor: every thing that he had selected is faithfully given to the public; and his arrangement, as far as it had gone, is in every respect strictly adhered to. In the Catalogue of Royal and Noble Authors considerable additions are made under the respective divisions of the original work; notices of several pieces omitted in the former editions are here inserted, and a postscript and an appendix are subjoined. The Historic Doubts upon the Life and Reign of King Richard III. are followed by a large supplement, by two replies to attacks made on the original work, and by a postscript occasioned by the late revolution in France.

"The whole contents of the second volume subsequent to the *Aedes Walpoliana* (the Essay on Gardening, and the Counter Addrefs on the late Dismissal of a General Officer, excepted) are new to the public.

"The Catalogue and Description of Strawberry Hill has been hitherto in the hands of those only to whom Lord

Orford bequeathed the few copies which he had himself printed there.

"To the Letter to the Editor of the Miscellanies of Thomas Chatterton, and other papers on that subject, the editor is fortunately enabled to add a third and last letter to Chatterton, repeatedly alluded to by Lord Orford in the above-mentioned pamphlet. This letter, which his Lordship had not been able to find, with the others, was recovered by his executors from amongst a quantity of waste paper.

"The different series of letters are so arranged, in chronological order, as to form a sort of history of the character, pursuits, and sentiments of the author, from his almost boyish days at college, to a period within six months of his death."

ADVERTISEMENT.

"AS I have been an author in various ways and in various forms, some body or other might think of collecting my works. To prevent this, and at the same time to avoid having pieces attributed to me which I never wrote, and to condemn, by suppressing as far as I can, some which do not deserve publication, I have determined to leave this collection behind me. The approbation bestowed on some part, authorizes me to think they are not unworthy of being preserved in this manner. The few pieces which have never appeared before, were either kept back from reasons which exist no longer, or were at the time in their own nature private. I mean, particularly, the letters addressed to ministers, or written on political occasions. They are not produced now from any merit in the composition, but as evidences of my own conduct; and, as such, they give me greater satisfaction at this late period than any other part of my writings. HOR. WALPOLE."

EXTRACT.

REMINISCENCES.

[Written in 1788, for the Amusement of Miss Mary and Miss Agnes B——y.]

"YOU were both so entertained with the old stories I told you one evening lately, of what I recollect to have seen and heard from my childhood of the courts of King George

the First, and of his son the Prince of Wales (afterwards George the Second), and of the latter's Princess, since Queen Caroline; and you expressed such wishes that I would commit those passages (for they are scarce worthy of the title even of anecdotes) to writing, that, having no greater pleasure than to please you both, nor any more important, or laudable occupation, I will begin to satisfy the repetition of your curiosity.—But observe, I promise no more than to *begin*; for I not only cannot answer that I shall have patience to continue, but my memory is still so fresh, or rather so retentive of trifles which first made impression on it, that it is very possible my life (turned of seventy-one) may be exhausted before my stock of remembrances; especially as I am sensible of the garrulity of old age, and of its eagerness of relating whatever it recollects, whether of moment or not. Thus, while I fancy I am complying with you, I may only be indulging myself, and consequently may wander into many digressions for which you will not care a straw, and which may intercept the completion of my design. Patience, therefore, young ladies; and if you coin an old gentleman into narratives, you must expect a good deal of alloy. I engage for no method, no regularity, no polish. My narrative will probably resemble siege-pieces, which are struck of any promiscuous metals; and, though they bear the imprints of some sovereign's name, only serve to quiet the garrison for the moment, and afterwards are merely hoarded by collectors and virtuosos, who think their series not complete, unless they have even the coins of base metal of every reign.—

“ As I date from my nuptials, I must have laid up no state-secrets. Most of the facts I am going to tell you, though new to you and to most of the present age, were known perhaps at the time to my nurse and my tutors. Thus my stories will have nothing to do with history.

“ As I was the youngest by eleven years of Sir Robert Walpole's children by his first wife, and was extremely weak and delicate, as you see me still, though with no constitutional complaint till I had the gout after forty, and as my two sisters were consumptive and died of consumptions, the supposed necessary care of me (and I have

overheard persons saying, ‘ That child cannot possibly live’) so engrossed the attention of my mother, that compassion and tenderness soon became extreme fondness: and as the infinite good nature of my father never thwarted any of his children, he suffered me to be too much indulged, and permitted her to gratify the first vehement inclination that ever I expressed, and which, as I have never since felt any enthusiasm for royal persons, I must suppose that the female attendants in the family must have put into my head, *to long to see the King*. This childish caprice was so strong, that my mother solicited the Duchesses of Kendal to obtain for me the honour of kissing his Majesty's hand before he set out for Hanover.—A favour so unusual to be asked for a boy of ten years old, was still too slight to be refused to the wife of the first minister for her darling child: yet not being proper to be made a precedent, it was settled to be in private and at night.

“ Accordingly, the night but one before the King began his last journey, my mother carried me at ten at night to the apartments of the Countess of Walsingham, on the ground-floor towards the garden at St. James's, which opened into that of her aunt the Duchesses of Kendal: apartments occupied by George II. after his Queen's death, and by his successive mistresses, the Countesses of Suffolk and Yarmouth.

“ Notice being given that the King was come down to supper, Lady Walsingham took me alone into the Duchesses's anti-room, where we found alone the King and her. I knelt down and kissed his hand. He said a few words to me, and my conductress led me back to my mother.

“ The person of the King is as perfect in my memory as if I saw him but yesterday. It was that of an elderly man, rather pale, and exactly like to his pictures and coins; not tall, of an aspect rather good than august, with a dark tye wig, plain coat, waistcoat and breeches of snuff-coloured cloth, with stockings of the same colour, and a blue riband over all. So entirely was he my object, that I do not believe I once looked at the Duchesses; but as I could not avoid seeing her on entering the room, I remember that just beyond his Majesty stood a very tall, lean, ill-favoured old lady; but I did

I did not retain the least idea of her features, nor know what the colour of her dress was.

" My childish loyalty, and the condescension in gratifying it, were, I suppose, causes that contributed very soon afterwards to make me shed a flood of tears for that sovereign's death, when with the other scholars at Eton college I walked in procession to the proclamation of the successor, and which (though I think they partly fell because I imagined it became the son of a prime-minister to be more concerned than other boys) were no doubt imputed by any of the spectators who were politicians, to my fears of my father's most probable fall, but of which I had not the smallest conception; nor should have met with any more concern than I did when it really arrived in the year 1742, by which time I had lost all taste for courts and princes and power, as was natural to one who never felt an ambitious thought for himself."

Vol. iv. p. 273.

CHARACTER OF QUEEN CAROLINE.

" QUEEN Caroline was said to have been very handsome at her marriage, soon after which she had the small-pox; but was little marked by it, and retained a most pleasing countenance: it was full of majesty or mildness as she pleased, and her penetrating eyes expressed whatever she had a mind they should. Her voice too was captivating, and her hands beautifully small, plump, and graceful. Her understanding was uncommonly strong; and so was her resolution. From their earliest connexion she had determined to govern the king, and deserved to do so; for her submission to his will was unbounded, her sense much superior, and his honour and interest always took place of her own: so that her love of power, that was predominant, was dearly bought, and rarely ill employed. She was ambitious too of fame; but, shackled by her devotion to the king, she seldom could pursue that object. She wished to be a patroness of learned men: but George had no respect for them or their works; and her Majesty's own taste was not very exquisite, nor did he allow her time to cultivate any studies. Her generosity would have displayed itself, for the valued money but as the instrument of her good purposes: but

she stunted her alike in almost all her passions; and though she wished for nothing more than to be liberal, she bore the imputation of his avarice, as she did of others of his faults. Often when she had made prudent and proper promises of preferment, and could not persuade the King to comply, she suffered the breach of word to fall on her, rather than reflect on him. Though his affection and confidence in her were implicit, he lived in dread of being supposed to be governed by her; and that silly parade was extended even to the most private moments of business with my father: whenever he entered, the queen role, curtseyed and retired, or offered to retire. Sometimes the King condescended to bid her stay—on both occasions she and Sir Robert had previously settled the business to be discussed. Sometimes the King would quash the proposal in question; and yield after re-talking it over with her—but then he boasted to Sir Robert that he himself had better considered it.

" One of the Queen's delights was the improvement of the garden at Richmond; and the King believed she paid for all with her own money—not would he ever look at her intended plans, saying, he did not care how she flung away her own revenue. He little suspected the aids Sir Robert furnished to her from the treasury. When she died, she was indebted twenty thousand pounds to the King.

" Her learning I have said was superficial; her knowledge of languages as little accurate. The King, with a bluff Westphalian accent, spoke English correctly. The Queen's chief study was divinity; and she had rather weakened her faith than enlightened it. She was at least not orthodox; and her confidante, Lady Sundon, an absurd and pompous simpleton, swayed her countenance towards the less-believing clergy. The Queen, however, was so sincere at her death, that when Archibishop Potter was to administer the sacrament to her, she declined taking it, very few persons being in the room. When the prelate retired, the courtiers in the anti-room crowded round him, crying ' My Lord, has the Queen received?' His Grace artfully eluded the question, only saying most devoutly, ' Her Majesty was in a heavenly disposition'—and the truth escaped the public.

" She

" She suffered more unjustly by declining to see her son, the Prince of Wales, to whom she sent her blessing and forgiveness—but conceiving the extreme distress it would lay on the King, should he thus be forced to forgive so impudent a son, or to banish him again if once recalled, she heroically preferred a notorious husband to a worthless child.

" The Queen's greatest error was too high an opinion of her own address and art: she imagined that all who did not dare to contradict her were imposed upon; and she had the additional weakness of thinking that she could play off many persons without being discovered. That mistaken humour, and at other times her hazarding very offensive truths, made her many enemies: and her duplicity in fomenting jealousies between the ministers, that each might be more dependent on herself, was no sound wisdom. It was the Queen who blew into a flame the ill-blood between Sir Robert Walpole and his brother-in-law Lord Townshend. Yet though she disliked some of the cabinet, she never let her own prejudices disturb the King's affairs, provided the obnoxious paid no court to the mistress. Lord Hay was the only man, who, by managing Scotland for Sir Robert Walpole, was maintained by him in spite of his attachment to Lady Suffolk.

" The Queen's great secret was her own rupture, which till her last illness nobody knew but the King, her German nurse Mrs. Mailborne, and one other person. To prevent all suspicion, her Majesty would frequently stand some minutes in her shift talking to her ladies*; and though labouring with so dangerous a complaint, she made it an invariable rule never to refuse a desire of the King, that every morning at Richmond she walked several miles with him; and more than once, when she had the gout in her foot, she dipped her whole leg in cold water to be ready to attend him. The

pain, her bulk, and the exercise, threw her into such fits of perspiration as vented the gout—but those exertions hastened the crisis of her distemper. It was great shrewdness in Sir Robert Walpole, who, before her distemper broke out, discovered her secret. On my mother's death, who was of the Queen's age, her Majesty asked Sir Robert many physical questions—but he remarked, that she often reverted to a rupture, which had not been the illness of his wife. When he came home, he said to me, ' Now, Horace, I know by possession of what secret Lady Sundon has preserved such an ascendant over the Queen.' He was in the right. How Lady Sundon had wormed herself into that mystery was never known. As Sir Robert maintained his influence over the clergy by Gibson Bishop of London, he often met with troublesome obstructions from Lady Sundon, who espoused, as I have said, the heterodox clergy; and Sir Robert could never shake her credit.

" Yet the Queen was constant in her protection of Sir Robert, and the day before she died gave a strong mark of her conviction that he was the firmest support the King had. As they two alone were standing by the Queen's bed, she pathetically recommended, not the minister to the sovereign, but the master to the servant. Sir Robert was alarmed, and feared the recommendation would leave a fatal impression—but a short time after the King reading with Sir Robert some intercepted letters from Germany, which said, that now the Queen was gone Sir Robert would have no protection: ' On the contrary,' said the King, ' you know she recommended me to you.' This marked the notice he had taken of the expression; and it was the only notice he ever took of it: nay, his Majesty's grief was so excessive and so sincere, that his kindness to his minister seemed to increase for the Queen's sake." Vol. i. v. p. 305.

* " While the Queen dressed, prayers used to be redde in the outward room, where hung a naked Venus. Mrs. Selwyn, bedchamber-woman in waiting, was one day ordered to bid the chaplain, Dr. Madox (afterwards Bishop of Worcester), begin the service. He said archly, ' And a very proper altar-piece is here, Madam!' Queen Anne had the same custom; and on ordering the door to be shut while she shifted, the chaplain stopped. The Queen sent to ask why he did not proceed? He replied, ' He would not wistle the word of God through the key-hole'."

CHARACTERS OF THE DUCHESSES OF MARLBOROUGH AND BUCKINGHAM.

"I HAVE done with royal personages. Shall I add a codicil on some remarkable characters that I remember? As I am writing for young ladies, I have dwelt chiefly on heroines of your own sex. They too shall compose my last chapter. Enter the Duchesses of Marlborough and Buckingham.

"Those two women were considerable personages in their day. The first, her own beauty, the superior talents of her husband in war, and the caprice of a feeble prince, raised to the highest pitch of power; and the prodigious wealth bequeathed to her by her lord, and accumulated in concert with her, gave her weight in a free country. The other, proud of royal though illegitimate birth, was from the vanity of that birth so zealously attached to her expelled brother the Pretender, that she never ceased labouring to effect his restoration: and as the opposition to the house of Brunswick was composed partly of principled Jacobites, of Tories, who either knew not what their own principles were, or dissembled them to themselves; and of Whigs, who, from hatred of the minister, both acted in concert with the Jacobites, and rejoiced in their assistance; two women of such wealth, rank, and enmity to the court, were sure of great attention from all the discontented.

"The beauty of the Duchess of Marlborough had always been of the scornful and imperious kind, and her features and air announced nothing that her temper did not confirm. Both together, her beauty and temper, enslaved her heroic lord. One of her principal charms was a prodigious abundance of fine fair hair. One day at her toilet, in anger to him, she cut off those commanding tresses, and flung them in his face. Nor did her info-

lence stop there; nor stop till it had totally estranged and worn out the patience of the poor Queen, her mistress. The Duchess was often seen to give her Majesty her fan and gloves, and turn away her own head, as if the Queen had offensive sinells.

"Incapable of due respect to superiors, it was no wonder she treated her children and inferiors with supercilious contempt. Her eldest daughter and she were long at variance, and never reconciled. When the younger Duchess exposed herself by placing a monument and silly epitaph, of her own composition and bad spelling, to Congreve in Westminster-abbey, her mother, quoting the words, said, 'I know not what pleasure the might have in his company, but I am sure it was no honour.' With her youngest daughter, the Duchess of Montagu, old Sarah agreed as ill.—'I wonder,' said the Duke of Marlborough to them, 'that you cannot agree, you are so like!' Of her grand-daughter, the Duchess of Manchester, daughter of the Duchess of Montagu, he affected to be fond. One day he said to her, 'Duchess of Manchester, you are a good creature, and I love you mightily—but you have a mother!' 'And she has a mother!' answered the Manchester, who was all spirit, justice, and honour, and could not suppress sudden truth.

"One of old Marlborough's capital mortifications sprung from a granddaughter. The most beautiful of her four charming daughters, Lady Sunderland*, left two sons †, the second Duke of Marlborough, and John Spencer, who became her heir, and Anne Lady Bateman, and Lady Diana Spencer, whom I have mentioned, and who became Duchess of Bedford. The Duke and his brother, to humour their grandmother, were in opposition, though the eldest she never loved. He had good sense, infinite generosity,

* "Lady Sunderland was a great politician; and having, like her mother, a most beautiful head of hair, used while combing it at her toilet to receive men whose votes or interest she wished to influence."

† "She had an elder son who died young, while only Earl of Sunderland. He had parts, and all the ambition of his parents and of his family (which his younger brothers had not); but George II. had conceived such an aversion to his father, that he would not employ him. The young Earl at last asked Sir Robert Walpole for an ensigncy in the guards. The minister, astonished at so humble a request from a man of such consequence, expressed his surprise—'I ask it,' said the young lord, 'to ascertain whether it is determined that I shall never have any thing.' He died soon after at Paris."

and not more economy than was to be expected from a young man of warm passions and such vaft expectations. He was modest and diffident too, but could not digest total dependence on a capricious and avaricious grandmother. His sister, Lady Bateman, had the intriguing spirit of her father and grandfather, Earls of Sunderland. She was connected with Henry Fox, the first Lord Holland, and both had great influence over the Duke of Marlborough. What an object would it be to Fox to convert to the court so great a subject as the Duke! Nor was it much less important to his sister to give him a wife, who, with no reasons for expectation of such shining fortune, shoud owe the obligation to her! Lady Bateman struck the first stroke, and perfuaded her brother to marry a handsome young lady, who unluckily was daughter of Lord Trevor, who had been a bitter enemy of his grandfather the victorious Duke. The grandam's rage exceeded all bounds. Having a portrait of Lady Bateman, she blackened the face, and wrote on it, 'Now her outside is as black as her inside.' The Duke she turned out of the little lodge in Windsor park; and then pretending that the new Duchefs and her female cousins, eight Trevors, had stripped the house and garden, she had a puppet-show made with waxen figures, representing the Trevors tearing up the shrubs, and the Duchefs carrying off the chicken-coop under her arm.

"Her fury did but increase when Mr. Fox prevailed on the Duke to go over to the court. With her coarse intemperate humour she said, 'That was the fox that had stolen her goose.' Repeated injuries at last drove the Duke to go to law with her. Fearing that even no lawyer would

come up to the Billingsgate with which she was animated herself, she appeared in the court of justice, and with some wit, and infinite abuse, treated the laughing public with the spectacle of a woman who had held the reins of empire metamorphosed into the widow Blackacre. Her grandson in his suit demanded a sword set with diamonds given to his grandf^re by the Emperor. 'I retained it,' said the beldame, 'lest he should pick out the diamonds and pawn them.'

"I will repeat but one more instance of her insolent asperity, which produced an admirable reply of the famous Lady Mary Wortley Montagu. Lady Sundon had received a pair of diamond ear-rings as a bribe for procuring a considerable post in Queen Caroline's family for a certain peer; and, decked with those jewels, paid a visit to the old Duchefs; who, as soon as she was gone, said, 'What an impudent creature, to come hither with her bribe in her ear!'—'Madam,' replied Lady Mary Wortley, who was present, 'how should people know where wine is sold, unless a bush is hung out?'

"The Duchefs of Buckingham was as much elated by owing her birth to James II. as the Marlborough was by the favour of his daughter. Lady Dorchester*, the mother of the former, endeavoured to curb that pride, and, one should have thought, took an effectual method, though one few mothers would have practised: 'You need not be so vain,' said the old profligate; 'for you are not the King's daughter, but Colonel Graham's.' Graham was a fashionable man of those days, and noted for dry humour. His legitimate daughter the Countess of Berkshire was extremely like to the Duchefs of Buckingham:

* "Lady Dorchester is well known for her wit, and for saying that she wondered for what James chose his mistresses: 'We are none of us handsome,' said she; 'and if we have wit, he has not enough to find it out.'—But I do not know whether it is as public, that her style was gross and shameless. Meeting the Duchefs of Portsmouth and Lady Orkney, the favourite of King William, at the drawing-room of George the First, 'God!' said she, 'who would have thought that we three whores shoud have met here?' Having after the King's abdication married Sir David Collyer, by whom she had two sons, she said to them, 'If any body shoud call you sons of a whore, you must bear it; for you are so: but if they call you bastards, fight till you die; for you are an honest man's sons.'

"Sister Lady Bellasis, another of King James's mistresses, had wit too and no beauty. Mrs. Godfrey had neither. Grammont has recorded why she was chosen."

"Well! well!" said Graham, "kings are all-powerful, and one must not complain; but certainly the same man begot these two women." To discredit the wit of both parents, the Duchess never ceased labouring to restore the house of Stuart, and to mark her filial devotion to it. Frequent were her journeys to the continent for that purpose. She always stopped at Paris, visited the church where lay the unburied body of James, and wept over it. A poor Benedictine of the convent, observing her filial piety, took notice to her Grace that the velvet pall that covered the coffin was become thread-bare—and so it remained!

"Finding all her efforts fruitless, and perhaps aware that her plots were undiscovered by Sir Robert Walpole, who was remarkable for his intelligence, she made an artful double, and resolved to try what might be done through him himself. I forget how she contracted an acquaintance with him.—I do remember that more than once he received letters from the Pretender himself, which probably were transmuted through her. Sir Robert always carried them to George II. who endorsed and returned them. That negotiation not succeeding, the Duchess made a more home push. Learning his extreme fondness for his daughter (afterwards Lady Mary Churchill), she sent for Sir Robert, and asked him if he recollects what had not been thought too great a reward to Lord Clarendon for restoring the royal family? He affected not to understand her—"Was not he allowed," urged the zealous Duchess, "to match his daughter to the Duke of York?" Sir Robert smiled, and left her.

"Sir Robert being forced from court, the Duchess thought the moment favourable*, and took a new journey to Rome; but conscious of the danger she might run of discovery, she made over her estate to the famous Mr. Pulteney (afterwards Earl of Bath), and left the deed in his custody. What was her astonishment, when on her return she re-demanded the instrument! —It was mislaid—He could not find it!—He never could find it! The Duchess

grew clamorous. At last his friend Lord Mansfield told him plainly, he could never show his face unless he satisfied the Duchess. Lord Bath did then sign a release to her of her estate. The transaction was recorded in print by Sir Charles Hanbury Williams, in a pamphlet that had great vogue, called *A Congratulatory Letter*, with many other anecdotes of the same personage, and was not less acute than Sir Charles's Odes on the same hero. The Duchess dying not long after Sir Robert's entrance into the House of Lords, Lord Oxford, one of her executors, told him there, that the Duchess had struck Lord Bath out of her will, and made him, Sir Robert, one of her trustees in his room. "Then," said Sir Robert laughing, "I see, my Lord, that I have got Lord Bath's place before he has got mine." Sir Robert had artfully prevented the last. Before he quitted the King, he persuaded his Majesty to insist as a preliminary to the change, that Mr. Pulteney should go into the House of Peers, his great credit lying in the other house; and I remember my father's action when he returned from court and told me what he had done—"I have turned the key of the closet on him"—making that motion with his hand. Pulteney had jumped at the proffered earldom, but saw his error when too late; and was so enraged at his own oversight, that, when he went to take the oaths in the House of Lords, he dashed his patent on the floor, and vowed he would never take it up—but he had kissed the King's hand for it, and it was too late to recede.

"But though Madam of Buckingham could not effect a coronation to her will, she indulged her pompous mind with such puppet-shows as were appropriate to her rank. She had made a funeral for her husband as splendid as that of the great Marlborough: she renewed that pageant for her only son, a weak lad who died under age; and for herself; and prepared and decorated waxen dolls of him and of herself to be exhibited in glass cases in Westminster-abby. It was for the procession at her son's burial that she wrote to old Sarah of Marlborough to borrow the triumphal

* "I am not quite certain that, writing by memory at the distance of fifty years, I place that journey exactly at the right period, nor whether it did not take place before Sir Robert's fall. Nothing material depends on the precise period."

car that had transported the corpse of the Duke. ‘ It carried my Lord ‘ Marlborough,’ replied the other, ‘ and shall never be used for any body ‘ else.’—‘ I have consulted the under- ‘ taker,’ replied the Buckingham, ‘ and he tells me I may have a finer for twenty pounds.’

“ One of the last acts of Buckingham’s life was marrying a grandson he had to a daughter of Lord Hervey. That intriguing man, fore, as I have said, at his disgrace, cast his eyes every where to revenge or exalt himself. Professions or recantations of any principles cost him nothing: at least the consecrated day which was appointed for his first interview with the Duchefs made it presumed, that to obtain her wealth, with her grandson for his daughter, he must have sworn fealty to the house of Stuart. It was on the martyrdom of her grandfather: she received him in the great drawing-room of Buckingham-house, seated in a chair of state in deep mourning, attended by her women in like weeds, in memory of the royal martyr.

“ It will be a proper close to the history of those curious ladies to mention the anecdote of Pope relative to them. Having drawn his famous character of Atossa, he communicated it to each Duchefs, pretending it was levelled at the other. The Buckingham believed him: the Marlborough had more sense, and knew herself—and gave him a thousand pounds to suppress it—And yet he left the copy behind him!

“ Bishop Burnet, from absence of mind, had drawn as strong a picture of herself to the Duchefs of Marlborough, as Pope did under covert of another lady. Dining with the Duchefs after the Duke’s disgrace, Burnet was comparing him to Belarius.—‘ But ‘ how,’ said she, ‘ could so great a ‘ general be so abandoned?’—‘ Oh! ‘ madam,’ said the Bishop, ‘ do not ‘ you know what a brimstone of a wife ‘ he had?’

“ Perhaps you know this anecdote, and perhaps several others that I have been relating—No matter—they will go under the article of my dotage—and very properly—I began with tales of my nursery, and prove that I have been writing in my second childhood.

“ January 13th, 1789.”—Vol. iv. p.
273.

(To be continued.)

XLII. Antiquities of Ionia. Published by the Society of Dilettanti. Part the Second. Super-royal Folio. pp. 43. With 59 Plates. 3l. 13s. 6d. *Nicol.*

LIST OF PLATES,

Drawn by Pars and Mayer, and engraved by Byrne, Newton, Middiman, &c.

RUIN near the Port of Aegina. Temple of Jupiter Panellenius, in Aegina.

Temple of Minerva, at Sunium.

Temple of Jupiter Nemæus, between Argos and Corinth.

Arch at Mylaza.

Sepulchral Monument at Mylaza.

Ruins near the Lake of Myüs or Baffi.

Gymnasium at Ephesus.

Stadium at Laodicea.

Gymnasium at Troas, Two Views.

Theatre at Patara, Two Views.

— at Castell Roffo.

— at Macris.

Forty-four Elevations, Sections, Plans, Fragments of Architecture, &c. from the Designs of Mr. Revett.

Eight Vignettes, consisting of an Eagle from Mr. Knight’s Cabinet-Tessera; or Tickets of Admission to the Theatres

— Medals—Allegorical Subjects—

View of the Theatre of Miletus, on the Banks of the Meander.

EXTRACT.

OF THE PRIMITIVE GREECAN ARCHITECTURE.

“ AFTER having, in our volume of Ionian Antiquities, presented the public with specimens of the elegant, luxuriant, and in some instances fanciful, architecture of the Asiatic Greeks, we now offer to their consideration a few examples of the more chaste and severe style, which prevailed in Greece itself and its European colonies; where a greater degree of rigour, both in private manners and public discipline, maintained for a longer time the genuine simplicity of ancient taste. This style of architecture is commonly called *Doric*, but might more properly be called *Grecian*, as being the only style employed, either in Greece, or its European colonies, prior to the Macedonian

cedonian conquest; when all the distinctive characteristics of the different nations, which became incorporated in that empire, were, by the policy of the conqueror and his successors, gradually blended and lost in each other. Hence, from the combined tastes and habits of different countries, arose fanciful and capricious designs and compositions; and that restless desire of novelty, which has always been the bane of true taste. Prior to that period, all the temples of Greece, Sicily, and Italy, appear to have been of one order, and of one general form; though slightly varied in particular parts, as occasional convenience or local fashion might chance to require.

" This general form was an oblong square, of six columns by thirteen, or eight by seventeen, inclosing a walled cell, small in proportion, which, in some instances, appears to have been left open to the sky, and in others, covered by the roof which protected the whole building. When the span of this roof was very wide, there appears in early times to have been a row of columns in the middle to support the rafters; the art of constructing any thing on the principle of an arch, even in wood, being then unknown. This seems to have been the case with all buildings of considerable magnitude in the time of Homer; who, in the *Odyssée*, frequently speaks of columns in the middle of the room; though in a passage of the *Iliad*, he mentions the fixing of rafters for a roof, so as to form an angle, and support each other.

" The ornamental part of this architecture (the Doric), or that which properly distinguishes it as an order, is extremely simple, and such as necessarily resulted from the mechanism of the structure. The columns represented posts, or trunks of trees, placed on a basement of stone, to prevent them from sinking into the ground, or being decayed by the wet; and they were regularly tapered from the bottom to the top, as trees are by nature: channels, or flutes, were cut in them, to hold the spears or staves which the early Greeks always carried; and on the tops were placed round stones, to protect them from the rain; and above, square ones, to receive the beam which supported the rafters of the ceiling. This beam became the archi-

trave; while the ends of the rafters resting upon it, being scored or channelled to prevent the rain from adhering to them, became the triglyphs; the drops of which represent the drops of water distilling from them. The cornice was the projecting part of the roof; and the blocks, the ends of the rafters which supported it. Some of these decorations, indeed, though employed at first merely as the natural result of the most obvious and primitive mode of building, were afterwards adapted, by slight alterations, to that symbolical language, which all the ornaments of the sacred buildings of antiquity were intended, in different modes, to express; but as the explanation of this belongs rather to the religion than the architecture of those times, it forms no part of the present subject. Our modern sophists have questioned all the accounts of the energy, power, and population of the ancients; and thus endeavoured to subvert all the authority of ancient history. The learned and elaborate essay of a late very acute and ingenious sceptic (Hume) on this subject, is well known; but without entering into any critical discussions concerning the corruptions of the texts, or the uncertainty of numerals in the Greek historians; or repeating any of the commonplace accusations of their disposition to exaggerate; we may, in answer to all the sceptical reasoning that human ingenuity can produce, point to the vast remains of splendour and power in the mouldered ruins of their public buildings; not only in the great ruling states, such as Athens, Corinth, and Syracuse; but in little obscure republics, such as Paestum, Segesta, and Selinus, whose names alone can be gleaned from history by the diligence of the antiquary; yet has the last and most obscure of these little states, left buildings, which surpass in size, strength, and solidity of the construction, not only all that the greatest potentates of modern times have been able to accomplish; but all that was ever produced by the unlimited resources and unlimited despotism of the Roman emperors. The portico of the great temple of Selinus, in Sicily, which is one of the six still remaining, prostrate and in ruins, on the site of that city, consisted of a double peristyle of eight columns in front, and

seventeen in depth; each of which was ten feet in diameter, and fifty feet high.

"Were it not for such remaining testimonies as these, of which we now offer examples to the public, the measurements of buildings given by Herodotus and Diodorus, would have been deemed as fabulous as their military musters or civil computations. We should have been asked triumphantly, whence came the artists, tools, and provisions; or from what resources did little barren states, destitute alike of any foreign trade, or foreign dominions, that we know or ever heard of, find means to maintain, in unproductive labour, such immense numbers of hands as such buildings must necessarily have required? To this we could have given no answer; and can give none now, but by pointing to the vast piles that still resist the destructive waste of time, and more destructive malignity of man; and bidding them attest the truth, and vindicate the character of venerable historians, from the cavils of that pertulant ingenuity, which is ever labouring to perplex where it cannot instruct, and to thicken darkness where it cannot diffuse light. We do not pretend, however, to assert that all these great structures were the separate works of the particular states, in whose territory we find them: on the contrary, we know that the Greeks had many cathedral or amphictyonic temples, each built and kept up at the common expence of several confederate states; who at stated times offered joint sacrifices at it, and held meetings to confer on their joint interests. Such were those of Delphi, Delos, Ephesus, Olympia, Eryx, &c. and perhaps that of Jupiter Nemens, of which the remains, situated in the ancient territory of Argos, are here published. The first belonged to all Greece; and, by the fame of its oracle, collected contributions from all the neighbouring countries both of Europe and Asia. The second belonged to the Ionians; who in the earliest times held their general assemblies there, under the protection of the guardian deity Apollo, for the purposes of business, devotion, and pleasure. All complaints and accusations of one state against another, were heard and settled by arbitrators; joint sacrifices and votive presents were offered to the gods; and

feats of strength, trials of skill, and efforts of genius, were displayed by the pugilists, the wretlers, and the poets." P. 1.

OF THE ANCIENT GREEK AND ROMAN THEATRE.

"ARISTOPHANES reflects on the Athenians for tumultuously crowding and pushing each other to obtain a seat on the front rows or places nearest to the orchestra, which in the Grecian theatre was the place for the chorus; and adjoining to this, somewhat elevated, the proscenium, answering to our stage, on which in early times a platform was raised, where the responses of the actors replying to the chorus were delivered. This part of the theatre was covered. Beyond the stage was the scene itself, richly decorated with ornaments of architecture, bas relieves, and painting. Near to the theatre were usually porticoes, temples, and basilicas. At Rome, for many ages, the theatres were temporary structures of wood, raised at the expence of the aediles, or other candidates for popular favour, and renewed as occasion required. Even the permanent theatres of Pompey, Balbus, and Marcellus, seem to have been constructed for the exhibitions of the gladiators, rather than for the use of the stage. Suetonius, in the life of Augustus, relates, that when the Emperor aligned to each order its place, the women were allowed to see the games only from the upper portico; and that afterwards they were absolutely prohibited from entering the theatre; it not being decent for them to assist at such representations. These regulations were however soon laid aside. Juvenal, in his sixth satire, speaks of the ardour with which the women in his time crowded to the gymnastic exercises:

- Ut spectet ludos, conductus Ogulnia vestem,
- Conductus comites, sellam, cervical, amicas,
- Nutricem, et flavam, cui det manus, puellam.'

"Calphurnius Siculus, in an eclogue which has been preserved entire, introduces a countryman, who for the first time having been present at the games, on his return to Rome relates to

to a neighbour the wonderful sights with which he had been entertained. Many particulars worthy of notice, and explanatory of these structures, are to be met with in his poem.

"In the amphitheatre of Vespasian the entrances were distinguished by numbers cut on the stone over each arch. Of these arches, eighty in number, thirty still remain on the north side with the figures entire, excepting on one arch only, where they are wanting. It has been supposed that this entrance was reserved for the Emperor and his suite. At the dedication of the building by Titus, each order of the state had its fixed place. To the college of the Arvales, or priests of Romulus, were certain seats appropriated, which are noticed in an inscription published by Marangoni, in his description of this amphitheatre, which was already verging to a state of decay in the time of Theodosius; the stones which had fallen being used as materials for repairing the walls of Rome." *P. 41.*

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EXTRACTS.

OF THE TURKISH MILITARY SYSTEM.

"THE present reigning Sultan, Selim, has made an attempt to introduce the European discipline into the Turkish army, and to abolish the body of janizaries; an attempt, which, whatever success it may ultimately be attended with, will form a memorable epocha in the history of the empire.

"A trifling circumstance gave rise to it. The Grand Vizir, Yusef Pasha, in the late Russian war, had a prisoner who was by birth a Turk, but being carried early in his youth to Moscow, he had become a Christian, and found in a Russian nobleman a patron, who gave him a good education, and placed him in the army. He was a lieutenant when he was taken prisoner, and had the reputation of being a good officer. The Vizir took pleasure in conversing with him, for he had not wholly forgotten his mother tongue. He represented the advantages of the European discipline, not only in battle, but in every other point of view, and particularly in securing the army from mutiny. By his persuasion the Vizir formed a small corps, composed of renegadoes and a few indigent Turks, to whom the prisoner taught the European exercise, which they used to perform before the Vizir's tent to divert him.

"Peace being concluded, the Vizir returned to Constantinople, and conducted this corps with him. They were left at a village a few leagues from the capital. The Sultan hearing of them, went to see how the infidels fought battles, as he would have gone to a puppet-show; but he was so struck with the superiority of their fire, that from that instant he resolved to introduce the European discipline into his army, and to abolish the janizaries; he therefore caused the corps to be recruited, set apart a branch of the revenue for their maintenance, and finally declared his intention of abolishing the institution of janizaries. This step, as might be expected, produced a mutiny, which was only appeased by the Sultan's concurring to continue them their pay during their life-times; but

he at the same time ordered that no recruits should be received into their corps.

"The new soldiery are taught their exercise with the musket and bayonet, and a few manœuvres. When they are held to be sufficiently disciplined, they are sent to garrison the fortresses on the frontiers. Their officers are all Turks, and are chosen out of those who perform their exercise the best.

"What they may become in time it is difficult to foretel; at present there is no other knowledge in the army than is possessed by a drill-serjeant; nor indeed can more be expected from them, till they have gained experience in actual war; and it must be remembered that they are still Turks, a very different people from those whom Peter the Great taught to conquer the Swedes. Their ignorance of those manœuvres, which, more than numbers or personal bravery, decide the fate of battles, will make their defeat easy to the Russians, should ever they become numerous enough to form an army, the first time they meet in the field: it will then be seen whether they can make a retreat, or are to be rallied, and whether the new discipline will not all at once be abandoned. They have hitherto no confidence in it; and they are devoid of the enthusiasm and *esprit de corps* of the janizaries. In the first campaign, however, they probably will be driven out of Europe.

"Merely the institution of this militia is an important event; and Selim may, perhaps, effect by policy, what several of his ancestors have attempted by force. Could he put himself at the head of a disciplined army, he would conquer the Ulema as easily as the janizaries; and the Turkish power, though it would never again be formidable to Europe, might be respectable in Asia. The Ulema see their danger, and oppose these changes with all their might. The whole is too new, has too many difficulties to encounter, and has made too small a progress for us to form an opinion how far the Sultan will ultimately succeed.

"The man who was the cause of this revolution in the military system, the Russian prisoner, and who had again become a Mahomedan, was rewarded for his services in the Turkish manner; for some misdemeanour, real or imputed, his head was struck off."

INSULTING TREATMENT OF CHRISTIANS IN TURKEY.

"THE most striking, as well as the most disgusting feature of Turkish manners, is that haughty conceit of superiority, arising from the most narrow and intolerant bigotry. There have been but too many instances in history, of nations, who, having proudly arrogated to themselves the title of favourites of the Almighty, have on that account exercised an insolent disdain toward all who were without the pale of their religion. In no instance, however, has this folly appeared more disgustingly conspicuous than in the Turkish nation; it marks the public and the private character; it appears in the solemnity of their legal acts, in the ceremonies of the court, and in the coarse rusticity of vulgar manners. As it is not my intention to enter into a metaphysical discussion of the Mahomedan dogmas, I shall, under the head of religion, only inquire into the various operations of the extensive principle throughout the different orders of society.

"If we listen to the dictates of their law, dictates which ought to have been conceived with caution, and uttered with calmness, we hear nothing but the accents of intolerance breathed forth with all the insolence of despotism.

"Every *raya* (that is, every subject who is not of the Mahomedan religion) is allowed only the cruel alternative of death or tribute; and even this is arbitrary in the breast of the conqueror. The very words of the formularey, given to their Christian subjects on paying the capitation tax, import, that the sum of money received, is taken as a compensation for being permitted to wear their heads that year.

"The insulting distinction of Christian and Mahomedan is carried to so great a length, that even the minutiae of dress are rendered subjects of restriction. A Christian must wear only clothes and head-dresses of dark colours, and such as Turks never wear, with slippers of black leather, and must paint his house black, or dark brown. The least violation of these frivolous and disgusting regulations is punished with death. Nor is it at all uncommon for a Christian to have his head struck off in the street for indulging in a little more poppery of dress than the Sultan or Vizir,

whom he may meet incognito, approves.

"If a Christian strikes a Mahomedan, he is most commonly put to death on the spot, or, at least, ruined by fines, and severely bastinadoed; if he strikes, though by accident, a *serry* (or *emir*, as they are called in Turkish, i. e. a descendant of Mahomed, who wear green turbands), of which there are thousands in some cities, it is death without remission.

"The testimony of Christians is little regarded in courts of justice; at best, two testimonies are but considered as one, and are even overborne by that of a single Mahomedan, if reputed at all an honest man.

"The Christians can build no new church, and not without great sums obtain a licence even to repair old ones. If a Mahomedan kills a Christian, he is generally only fined. At Constantinople indeed they are (on account of the police necessary in the capital) sometimes punished with death, according to the circumstances of the case, but always if attended with robbery, or by secret assassination in his house or on the highway, or in any manner so as to disturb the police, which is properly the crime that is punished." P. 103.

CONDUCT OF THE TURKS TOWARDS FOREIGN MINISTERS.

"THE manners of the court itself, tinctured as those of all courts are, with deceit, are not sufficiently polished to avoid a conduct, not merely haughty, but indecent, to the representatives of Christian sovereigns. The stupid and incorrigible ignorance of the Turk makes him treat his most favoured allies only as dependents; hence their ambassadors are received merely as deputies from tributary states. Every solemnity at which the foreign ministers assist in Turkey, occasions them a new species of humiliation, in which they are led from indignity to indignity, a spectacle to the stupid populace, who insult them with the coarsest language as they pass, and measure by this scale the greatness of their sovereign. The minister who is to obtain an audience of the Sultan, must present himself at the Porte by four o'clock in the morning, where, after three or four tedious hours occupied

pied in unmeaning ceremonies, he is informed that he may be permitted to see the resplendent face of the emperor of the world (*Geban padiba*), who among his other pompous titles bears that of *Aleumum pennati, refuge of the world*; after which he is seated in a solitary corner of the divan, on the left, near the door, and the Vizir sends to the Sultan a short note called *talkif*, which is in substance, ‘that the infidel * (*ghiaur*) of such a court, after having * been sufficiently fed, and decently * clothed, by the special grace of his * sublime majesty, humbly supplicates * leave to come and lick the dust be- * neath his illustrious throne.’ The talkifgee (or billet-bearer) having returned with the answer of the Emperor, the Vizir and all his assistants rise with respect at the sight of the sacred writing (*khat-i-ferris*), and the ambassador is conducted to the audience, the ceremonies of which are too well known to need repetition. It may not, however, be amiss to notice, that the ministers and their suite, who go into the audience chamber, are invested with a *kaftan* or Turkish garment, which covers entirely their own dress, and reaches to the ground; and that some writers have absurdly represented this robe as a mark of honour shown to them; the truth is, that the Turks wishing them to appear in every thing as vassals of their empire, obliged them formerly to be habited entirely in the Turkish dress, except the head, which was covered with a hat, and to let their beards grow previously to admission into the Sultan’s presence, as their tributaries, the Raguseans, do at the present day. This humiliating masquerade was abolished by means of the ambassadors of England and Holland, who acted as mediators in the treaty of Pallarowitz (in 1718), and who took advantage of the dejected state of Turkey to establish the custom, that the European ministers should appear in their national dresses. The investiture of the *kaftan* is only a remains of the ancient usage, and is no more to be considered as an honour than the custom of wearing a hat at the audience, which is so far from being a matter of favour, that no European minister would be permitted to appear otherwise before the Sultan or Vizir. The Turks consider a European’s pulling off his hat exactly as we do a man’s pulling off his wig.

“Particular instances of Turkish insolence, even to the representatives of their most powerful allies, are frequent and striking.

“It is not fifty years since the Grand Vizir, Gin-Ali-Patha, advised the divan to confine all the ambassadors to a small island near Constantinople, as lepers, or other infectious and unclean persons.

“In 1756, the Sieur Du Val, dragoman to the French ambassador, Mr. de Vergennes, having announced the double bond of alliance and marriage, which had united his court with the House of Austria, received from the Reis-efendi no other answer, than ‘that the Sublime Porte did not trouble it-self about the union of one hog with another.’ This marriage was not very agreeable news to the Porte. A similar answer was given by the Vizir Kiuperli to the French ambassador, Monsieur de la Haye, even in the brilliant era of Louis XIV.: when that minister announced the splendid successes of his sovereign over the Spaniards, the Vizir replied, with the barbarous insolence of an Ottoman satrap, ‘What care I whether the dog eat the hog, or the hog eat the dog, so that the interests of my sovereign prosper?’ The same Vizir offered a more atrocious insult to the ancient ally of the Porte, in the person of the son of Monsieur de la Haye, whom he caused to be thrown into a dungeon, after receiving publicly a blow, which broke one of his teeth. The sole cause of this outrage was the refusal of young De la Haye to explain a letter, which he had written in cipher to a friend at Venice.

“It is not to be denied, that these degradations are frequently increased by the ferocity of the ministers themselves, who, by a manly resistance, might generally avoid such indignities; for the barbarous insolence of the Turks, which is augmented by timidity, shrinks into nothing before a resolute and dignified firmness. Such was the conduct of Monsieur de Ferrioles, ambassador from France in the last century, who having taken his sword, either inadvertently or by design, to the audience of the Grand Seignior, not only refused to lay it aside, but gave a kick in the belly to an officer of the seraglio who attempted to take it from him by force; and finding that he was denied admission, thus armed, to the imperial audience,

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he returned with his suite to his house at Pera, after casting off the kaftan with which he had been invested. Yet this ambassador remained a dozen years longer at Constantinople, and transacted the business of his office with credit to himself and advantage to his country.

"In 1766, the Porte, wishing to show some mark of contempt to Poland, required the Polish envoy to appear at the audience of the Vizir without a sabre; with this demand he refused to comply, declaring that the sabre was part of the Polish dress, and that, as other ministers wore their swords, he would not appear at any audience in a manner contrary to the ancient etiquette. The consequence of his firmness was a compliance on the part of the Vizir, who received him with all the usual ceremonies.

"In the last war, it was offered to some Turkish prisoners to serve as volunteers in the Russian flotilla against Sweden. On account of the pay, they accepted the offer with gladness, and behaved very well in several actions. On their return they were asked, in my presence, why they fought against their friends? their answer was, 'They are all bogs alike to us, whether they wear green or blue coats.' The conformity of this answer with those of the great officers of the Porte is truly striking.

"It is not only in the formalities of the law, or in the etiquette of the court, that a barbarous insolence is displayed. The peasant, no less than the sultan, thinks it unworthy of him to dissemble the contempt which he bears towards all unbelievers. The very porter employed by a Christian merchant will return his address with insult; and so degrading is any connexion with infidels esteemed, that the janizaries employed as guards to a European have the general appellation of hog-drivers. No Turk of the lowest condition will rise from his seat to receive even an ambassador: to avoid this incivility in visits from foreign ministers, the Vizir, or other person, comes into the audience chamber after the minister, and they both sit down at the same time.

"As a proof of the contempt in which the Turks hold all foreigners, and their persuasion of their own superiority, which they even imagine is granted by other nations, I shall men-

tion one or two anecdotes, of which I myself was a witness.

"A Turkish prisoner of Ochakof, meeting at Cherfon, where he had liberty to walk about the town without restraint, a Russian officer on a narrow pavement where only one person could pass, and the streets being exceedingly dirty (over the shoes), when he was within a few yards of him, the Turk, as if he had been in the streets of Constantinople, made a sign with his hand to the officer to descend from the pavement into the dirt. This appeared to the officer so exceedingly ridiculous, that he burst out into a fit of laughter, upon which the Turk abused him in the grossest language, such as is used to infidels in Turkey, and still insisted on the officer's going out of his way; he, not being a violent man, only beckoned to a soldier, who pushed him headlong off the pavement; to this the Turk submitted with silent resignation; but, unluckily for him, it was near the house of the governor, who had seen and heard the whole; he reprimanded the fellow for his insolence, and was threatened with the same treatment as the Russian prisoners endure at Constantinople. The Turk's answer was, 'They are infidels, but I am a Mahomedan.' This procured him a good drubbing, but he all the while hollowed out, that it was not lawful to strike a Muselman; and as soon as he was set at liberty, he went away swearing vengeance against the first infidel he should meet when he got back to Turkey." *P. 110.*

XLIV. Life of Catharine II. Empress of Russia. (Continued from p. 128.)

EXTRACT.

PRINCE IVAN ASSASSINATED IN THE CASTLE OF SCHLUSSELBURG.

"**I**VAN Antonovitch, styled Ivan the Third in the manifestos that were published in his name while Emperor, was born in 1740; great grandson of Tzar Ivan Alexeyevitch, the elder half-brother of Peter the Great. On running over the series of Russian monarchs from Alexey Michailovitch downwards, our feelings are at every moment hurt by the intestine disturbances that have happened from differ-

ent pretenders, of which so many within so short a space of time, and in general attended with such shocks, no princely house of Europe has experienced, especially in modern times. But a cruel fatality seems, in a particular manner, to have propagated the seeds of discord between the families of the two imperial brothers.

" We have seen him seized and confined with his parents and relations; at first conveyed to the citadel of Riga, then in the fortress of Dunamund; from thence removed to Oranienburg, at the south-eastern extremity of European Russia. At all these places the being together alleviated the miseries of imprisonment, and especially the humane behaviour of Captain Korf, which first awakened the gratitude of the infant Emperor, and was all his life after recollect ed with emotion; solely on account of this lenity, the suspicion of the court fell upon Korf, and he was removed from his office. About the latter end of 1745, or the beginning of the year 1746, the family was separated; all the rest being brought more northward to Kolmogori, Ivan was left behind in Oranienburg. To his great misfortune it came into the mind of a monk to carry him off; in their flight they had reached Smolensk, where the affair was discovered, and they were detained. From thence the wretched captive, lately the envied Emperor of a quarter of the globe, was now brought, for greater security, to Schlusselburg, and there lodged in a calematt of the fortresses, the very loop-hole of which was immediately bricked up. He was never brought out into the open air, and no ray of heaven ever visited his eyes. In this subterranean vault it was necessary to keep a lamp always burning; and as no clock was either to be seen or heard, Ivan knew no difference between day and night. His interior guard, a captain and a lieutenant, were shut up with him; and there was a time when they did not dare to speak to him, not so much as to answer him the simplest question. What wonder if his ignorance should at length border on stupidity? This dreadful abode was however afterwards changed for that presently to be described, in the corridor under the covered way, in the castle. Elizabeth caused him once to be brought in a covered cart to Peterburg, and saw

and conversed with him. Peter III. also visited him incognito. Catharine too had a conversation with him soon after the commencement of her reign, as she relates in her manifesto of the 28th of August 1764, in order, as is there said, to form a judgment of his understanding and talents. To her great surprise she found him to the last degree deficient in both. She observed in him a total privation of sense and reason, with a defect in his utterance, that, even had he any thing rational to utter, would have rendered him entirely unintelligible.

" All persons, however, were not so thoroughly convinced of the incapacity of this prince. He was now arrived at the age of twenty-four years, and he might evidently be made an instrument, or at least a pretence, for exciting dangerous commotions. His just title to the crown, of which he had been formerly in possession, his long sufferings, without any other guilt than that possession and that title, his youth, and even the obscurity which attended his life, and which therefore gave latitude for conjecture and invention, formed very proper materials for working on the minds of the populace. At the moment when Catharine was taking her departure from the residence, she had intelligence of fresh conspiracies among the guards. Several of them were taken up; but experience having shown that the detection of one conspiracy always encouraged the hatching of some other; and willing to avoid irritating the multitude by the frequency of punishments, the conspirators were proceeded against in private, and many of them were suffered to pine out their lives in prison.

" From the depth of his dungeon Prince Ivan afforded hopes to those who held in abhorrence the present usurpation. It was for restoring the throne to this unfortunate captive that almost all these plots were formed. It was for his sake that men who had never seen him, and whose very existence was utterly unknown to him, were continually braving the scaffold. Faithful to the system of calumny that had been of such service to the destruction of Peter III. the court of Russia incessantly employed it against Ivan. One while it was given out that he was stupid, and incapable of uttering articulate sounds; at another, that he was

was a drunkard, and as ferocious as a savage. Sometimes it was even pretended, that he was subject to fits of madness, and believed himself a prophet. But many there were to whom these reports seemed no better than tales invented by the blackest malignity, and afterwards innocently propagated by persons who did not reflect on the numberless interests that might concur in their invention. Doubtless, Ivan, to whom all kinds of instruction were refused, and who was kept shut up in a loathsome prison, denied the converse of any human being from whom he could derive information, must necessarily have been of a very confined understanding: but there is still a great distance between ignorance and imbecility or madness. What evidently proves that Ivan was neither mad nor stupid is, in the first place, the conversation he had, in 1756, at Count Schuvaloff's with the Empress Elizabeth. Not only the graces of his figure and the accents of his voice, but the moving complaints he uttered, awakened the sensibility of all that were present, and even drew from the Empress abundance of tears. If that young prince had committed some act of lunacy, would it have failed of publication? Again, afterwards we find a fresh proof of his good sense and his sensibility in the discourse which he held to Peter III. when he saw him, for the first time, at Schlusselburg. Peter III. talked with him several times afterwards, and persisted in his intention of declaring him his heir. Now it may well be imagined, that Volkoff, Goudovitch, and his other confidants, would have dissuaded him from it, if they could have brought themselves to imagine Ivan likely to be for ever unfit to wear the crown. But, to conclude, whatever might be the character of that prince, the daring attempts that were repeatedly made in his favour did not render him less formidable to Catharine and to the tranquillity of the empire.

"Chance soon furnished an instrument to put him out of the way of being any disturbance to either. The regiment of Smolensk was in garrison in the town of Schlusselburg; and a company of about one hundred men guarded the fortress in which Prince Ivan was confined. In this regiment was an officer named Vassily Mirovitch, whose grandfather had been

implicated in the rebellion of the Kozac Mazeppa, and had fought under Charles XII. against Peter the Great. The estates of the family of Mirovitch had accordingly been forfeited to the crown. This young man, who had a good share of ambition, preferred with warmth his pretensions to have them restored; and this it was that made him known at court. The family-estates were not given up; but he was continually flattered with the hopes of their recovery, if he would show himself active in securing the tranquillity of the empire.

"The inner guard placed over the imperial prisoner consisted of two officers, Captain Vlassieff and Lieutenant Tschekin, who slept with him in his cell. These had a discretionary order, signed by the Empress, by which they were enjoined to put the unhappy Prince to death, on any insurrection that might be made in his favour, on the presumption that it could not otherwise be quelled.

"The door of Ivan's prison opened under a sort of low arcades, which, together with it, form the thicknesses of the castle-wall within the ramparts; in this arcade or corridor eight soldiers usually kept guard, as well on his account, as because the several vaults on a line with his contain stores of various kinds for the use of the fortress. The other soldiers were in the guard-house, at the gate of the castle, and at their proper stations. The detachment had for its commander an officer, who himself was under the orders of the governor.

"It has been affirmed that, some time before the execution of his project, Mirovitch had opened himself to a lieutenant of the regiment of Veliki Luki, named Ufchakoff; and that Ufchakoff bound himself by an oath, which he took at the altar of the church of St. Mary of Kafan in St. Petersburg, to aid him in the enterprise to the best of his power. But as this latter was drowned, a few days after this is said to have happened, as he was assisting in the launch of a vessel, it is impossible to ascertain the fact.

"It is more apparent that he talked in vague terms of the conspiracy with one of the valets of the court, and that he mentioned it afterwards to Simeon Tchevarideff, lieutenant of artillery, and spoke of the advantages that would accrue

accrue from the rescue of Ivan, and the delivering of him to the regiments of the guards. While he thought to raise his consequence by putting on the air of a conspirator without accomplices, he however said nothing to Tschevarideff positively either of the time or the manner of executing his plot.

"He had already performed his week's duty in the fortrefs, without venturing an attempt. But, tormented by the anxieties arising from suspense, and condemning his own irresolution, he asked permission to be continued on guard for one week longer. This was granted him without hesitation.

"After having admitted into his confidence a man of the name of Jacob Pilskoff, he began at about ten o'clock on a fine summer's night, the 4-15th of July, to fall into conversation with three corporals and two common soldiers; and after tampering with them some time, and obviating such difficulties as were suggested by their fears, they were soon gained over to his plan, and they promised to follow his orders. Nevertheless, whether from timidity or from precaution, they resolved with one consent to wait till the night was farther advanced. Between the hours of one and two in the morning, they came together again. Mirovitch and the corporals then made about fifty of the soldiers who were on guard to put themselves under arms, and thus marched towards the prison of Ivan. On the way they met Bedenikoff, the governor of the fortrefs, whom they thought fast locked in the arms of sleep; but who, roused by some noise, whether made by them or accidentally occasioned, had come out to see what was the matter. The governor authoritatively demanded of Mirovitch the reason of his appearance in arms at the head of the soldiers? Without returning any answer, Mirovitch knocked him down with the butt end of his firelock, and, ordering some of his people to secure him, continued his march. Being arrived at the corridor into which the door of Ivan's chamber opened, the centinels put themselves in a posture to oppose his passage. He immediately ordered his men to fire upon them, which they did. The centinels returned their fire; but none were hurt either on the one side or the other.

"The soldiers of Mirovitch, fur-

pised at the resistance they met, showed signs of an inclination to retreat. Their chief withheld them; but they insisted on his showing them the order which he said he had received from Petersburg. He directly drew from his pocket and read to them a forged decree of the senate, recalling Prince Ivan to the throne, and excluding Catharine from it, because she was gone into Livonia to marry Count Poniatofsky. The ignorant and credulous soldiers implicitly gave credit to the decree, and again put themselves in order to obey him. A piece of artillery was now brought to Mirovitch, who himself pointed it at the door of the dungeon; but at that instant the door opened, and he entered unmolested with all his suite.

"The officers Vlaissieff and Tsche-kin, set over the Prince as his guard, were shut up with them, and had called out to the centinels to fire. But, on hearing Mirovitch give orders to beat in the door, and judging that they had not the means of making any resistance to the assailants, they fell sword in hand on the wretched victim now attempted to be carried off.

"At the noise of the firing Ivan had awoke; and hearing the cries and the threats of his guards, he conjured them to spare his miserable life. But, on seeing that these barbarians had no regard to his prayers, he found new force in his despair, and, though naked, defended himself for a considerable time. Having his right hand pierced through, and his body covered with wounds, he seized the sword from one of the monsters and broke it; but while he was struggling to get the piece out of his hand, the other stabbed him from behind, and threw him down. He who had his sword broke now plunged his bayonet into his body, and several times repeated his blow; under these strokes the unhappy Prince expired.

"They then opened the door, and showed Mirovitch at once the bleeding body of the murdered Prince, and the order by which they were authorized to put him to death, if any attempt should be made to convey him away.

"Mirovitch, struck with horror, at first started back some paces; then threw himself on the body of Ivan, and cried out:—'I have missed my aim; I have now nothing to do but

“to die.”—But he presently rose up. So far from attempting to flee from the punishment which he must now foresee, or to take his revenge on the two assassins by shooting them on the spot, he returned to the place where he had left the governor in the hands of his torturers; and, surrendering to him his sword, coldly said:—“It is I that ‘am now your prisoner.’”

The next day the body of the poor unfortunate Ivan was exposed before the church in the castle of Schluselburg, clothed in the habit of a tailor. As soon as it was known, immense crowds of people flocked thither from the neighbouring towns and from St. Petersburg; and it is impossible to describe the grief and indignation that were excited at the view of an unfortunate being, who, after having been cruelly precipitated from the throne while yet in his cradle, passed his days in a dark and doleful dungeon, where he was inhumanly put to death by assassins. Ivan was full six feet high, with a fine blond head of hair, a red beard, regular features, and of a complexion extremely fair: accordingly, the beauty of his person and his youth heightened the sensibility that was universally discovered at the unhappiness of his lot, and the cruelty of his murderers. His body was wrapt up in a sheep-skin, put into a coffin, and inhumed without ceremony.

“The concourse and the murmurs increased to such a degree that a tumult was now apprehended. To avoid any fatal consequences to themselves, the two assassins Vlastieff and Tschekin, as soon as they had perpetrated their crime, put themselves on board of a vessel which they found on the point of failing for Denmark, where, on their arrival, the Russian minister took them under his protection.

“The governor of Schluselburg dispatched to Petersburg a full relation of the horrid outrage of Mirovitch, and of the tragical end of Ivan. He accompanied this account with a manifesto that had been found in the pocket of Mirovitch, and which, it was said, had been long fabricated in concert with Lieutenant Uschakoff. This manifesto, which contained many scurrilous invectives

and imprecations against Catharine, and represented Prince Ivan as the sole legitimate Emperor, it was observed, was to have been published at the moment the Prince was set at liberty, and was making his entry into St. Petersburg. Panin immediately sent off a courier to the Empress with an exact account of these particulars.

“Her Majesty was then at Riga; and, under a visible impatience of mind, was frequently inquiring after news from the residence: a circumstance by no means unaccountable, if we consider the frequent causes of alarm from plots and cabals, with which she had been incessantly harassed since the beginning of her reign. Her inquietude increased from day to day; and she would often rise in the night to ask whether no courier was arrived. Some persons afterwards recollect these circumstances to her disadvantage, as if she was anxiously counting the days since the period when Mirovitch was stationed on guard*. At length, after three days had elapsed, the dispatches of Panin were brought to her hand.

“The senate passed sentence alone upon Mirovitch, condemning him to be beheaded. The two officers were rewarded.

“The public was much divided in opinion concerning the whole of this transaction. It was thought inconceivable that an insignificant private individual should hazard an enterprise, that, if even at first all things should go well, yet could never be prosecuted to final success by him. That in the attack no one should be hurt; that upon Ivan’s death all should be immediately as quiet as if nothing had happened; that no inquiry was set on foot about any accomplices in Petersburg, of which there had been some talk at first; seemed to give room to surmise that simply this death was the object in view, and to this sole end the whole machinery was directed. None of the court party could have done this service to the absent Empress, without her knowledge and consent. But, on the other hand, the scandalous manifesto found upon Mirovitch was produced, which he intended to have published immediately upon his

* “The circumstance that Mirovitch had suffered his week’s duty on guard to expire before he could summon up courage enough to attempt the execution of his project, was not, on this occasion, forgotten.”

having Ivan in his possession, and which Count Panin, it was said, had actually read and sent to the sovereign; but particularly the execution of the rebel: if perhaps it was he, and not some unknown malefactor, who underwent that punishment. Let it suffice, the public emotions of pity and displeasure at the sad catastrophe of the imperial progeny, and himself once Emperor, were plainly manifested by every kind of expression. The multitudes of people, who, notwithstanding all that could be done to check their impetuosity, still flocked to the castle, insisting on seeing the body, were so great, that the government was obliged to give orders to remove it from the castle-church, and convey it in the silence of the night with the utmost secrecy, to the monastery of Tichfina, 200 versts from Petersburg. Among the regiments of guards in that city, who thought they had the exclusive right to depose and to murder emperors, violent commotions arose; that especially in the night of the 24th of July, caused the greatest alarm: it was only by the prudent measure of Prince Galizin, who caused powder and ball to be publicly distributed among the marching regiments that were encamped in the vicinity of Petersburg, that tranquillity was restored. When the two officers by whom the Prince was assassinated appeared at court, every one beheld them with looks of undiminished contempt and abhorrence." Vol. ii. p. 23.

(To be continued.)

XLV. Life and Administration of Sir Robert Walpole. (Continued from p. 140.)

EXTRACT.

RESIGNATION OF SIR ROBERT WALPOLE.

"THE state of his own health was a principal cause of his downfall. He had suffered at the latter end of the preceding year from a severe illness. His memory was no longer so strong, nor his method of transacting business so ready as before. Hence he was incapable of making those exertions which his critical situation rendered necessary; of unmanning his treacherous friends; of exposing his

enemies, and of adopting such measures as would have enabled him to act with vigour, or to retire with dignity. During this session he appeared in general absent and thoughtful. He seemed to have lost, in many instances, that contempt of abuse, and command of temper, for which he had been remarkably distinguished: he was either, contrary to his usual custom, silent, or he was irritable and fretful. In one instance he publicly declared, that if he could collect the real sense of the House on the difficult and dangerous situation of affairs, he would support it as a minister in the cabinet. But when he made this declaration, he did not intimate his own opinion; a circumstance which, according to the late Earl of Hardwicke, who was present on this occasion, proved the distress and concern under which he laboured. The loss of the Westminster question ought to have been the signal of his immediate resignation, and many of his friends were of that opinion. But he still appeared anxious to retain his power as long as he was able; and during the recesses of Parliament, he made an ill-judged application to seduce the Prince of Wales from his party, in which his own sagacity and knowledge of mankind ought to have convinced him that he had no chance of succeeding. Being informed that the members of opposition proposed to renew the motion in parliament, for increasing the establishment of the Prince, he prevailed on the King, not without the greatest difficulty, to offer an increase of 50,000l. to his annual income, and to insinuate hopes that his debts should be paid, provided he would not oppose the measures of government. A message to this purpose was conveyed to the Prince by the Bishop of Oxford, at the instance of Lord Cholmondeley, and by command of the King. The Prince, after due expressions of duty and affection, declared that he considered the message as coming from Lord Cholmondeley, and not from the King, and therefore would not listen to any proposition of a similar import, so long as Sir Robert Walpole continued at the head of administration." Vol. i. p. 692.

"On the 9th of February 1742, Sir Robert Walpole was created Earl of Orford, and on the 11th he resigned.

"It is asserted by a contemporary historian, who possessed great means

of information, that the minister would have sooner retired, if the state of the nation and of parties had not rendered his continuance in power necessary for the arrangement of a new administration, and for preserving the tranquillity of the country; and that he continued in office solely in compliance with the wishes of his friends. The papers which have been committed to my inspection, and the undoubted information which I have received, enable me to contradict this assertion. He retired unwillingly and slowly: no shipwrecked pilot ever clung to the rudder of a sinking vessel with greater pertinacity than he did to the helm of state, and he did not relinquish his post until he was driven from it by the desertion of his followers, and the clamours of the public. Speaker Onslow, who knew him well, declared that he reluctantly quitted his station; and if any doubt still remains, we have the testimony of the minister. 'I must inform you,' he observes in a letter to the Duke of Devonshire, 'that the panic was so great among, what shall I call them, my own friends, that they all declared that my retiring was become absolutely necessary, as the only means to carry on the public business with honour and success.'

"It has been also asserted with no less confidence, that the King himself was become weary of a minister, who had so long directed his affairs, who had so often opposed and obstructed his inclination for war, and who was still endeavouring to remove every obstacle which impeded the return of peace. But the same documents enable me to adduce an honourable testimony of the good faith and firmness of George the Second. Although the asperities, which time and vexation occasioned in both their tempers, produced a momentary dissatisfaction, yet the King had contracted, by long habit and experience of his capacity for business, a high regard and esteem for his long-tried counsellor. In vain the Earl of Weymouth and the Duke of Dorset had urged the necessity of his removal. The resolution of the King was fixed, and he did not consent to his resignation until the minister himself made it his express desire.

"The interview when he took leave of the King was highly affecting. On kneeling down to kiss his hand, the

King burst into tears, and the ex-minister was so moved with that instance of regard, that he continued for some time in that posture; and the King was so touched, that he was unable to raise him from the ground. When he at length rose, the King testified his regret for the loss of so faithful a counsellor, expressed his gratitude for his long services, and his hopes of receiving advice on important occasions.

"When his resolution to resign was known, he received more honours than had been paid to him in the plenitude of power. His last levee was more numerously attended than his first. The concourse of persons of all ranks and distinctions was prodigious; and their expressions of affectionate regard and concern extremely moving.

"The ex-minister received many proofs of disinterested attachment from persons to whom he had never shewn any mark of particular attention. Among others, Soame Jenyns gave a testimony of his approbation, thus recorded in the words of his biographer: 'Unknown to Sir Robert, and unconnected with him by acquaintance or private regard, he supported him to the utmost of his power, till he retired from his high station, making room for those who soon showed the loss the nation had sustained by the sad exchange. After he had retired, Soame Jenyns waited upon Sir Robert at Chelsea, when, amongst other things which passed in conversation, Lord Oxford acknowledged the support he had given him during the time that he had sitten in Parliament, and in expressions of great thankfulness; at the same time declaring, that had those to whom, during his meridian of power, he had shewn the greatest friendship, and loaded with all the favours he could confer on them, but borne as kind dispositions to him as he had done, who had not been distinguished by any particular regard, he would not then have paid a visit to an ex-minister.'

"The old clergyman of Walsingham, who was master of the first school in which Sir Robert Walpole was instructed, came to Houghton, and told him that he had been his first master, and had predicted that he would be a great man. Being asked why he never had called on him while he was in power, he answered, 'I knew that

'you

• you were surrounded with so many
• petitioners craving preferment, and
• that you had done so much for Nor-
• folk people, that I did not wish to
• intrude. But,' he added in a strain
of good-natured simplicity, 'I al-
ways inquired how Robin went on,
and was satisfied with your pro-
ceedings.' *Vol. i. p. 695.*

PRIVATE CHARACTER OF SIR
ROBERT WALPOLE.

"SIR Robert Walpole was tall and well-proportioned, and in his youth and opening manhood so comely, that at the time of his marriage he and his wife were called the *handsome couple*, and among the knights who walked in procession at the installation of the garter, in 1725, he was, next to the Duke of Grafton and Lord Townshend, most distinguished for his appearance. As he advanced in years he became extremely corpulent and unwieldy. His countenance does not seem to have been remarkable for strong traits. The features were regular; when he spoke, and particularly when he smiled, his physiognomy was pleasing, benign, and enlightened: his eye was full of spirit and fire, and his brow prominent and manly.

"His style of dress was usually plain and simple; a circumstance which was not overlooked by the Craftsman, who thus holds him up to ridicule: 'There entered a man dressed in a plain habit, with a purse of gold in his hand.' He threw himself forward into the room in a bluff ruffianly manner, a smile, or rather a sneer upon his countenance.' His address was so frank and open, his conversation so pleasing, and his manner so fascinating, that those who lived with him in habits of intimacy adored him, those who saw him occasionally loved him, and even his most bitter opponents could not hate him. One of these did not hesitate to say of him, 'Never was a man in private life more beloved: and his enemies allow no man did ever in private life deserve it more. He was humane and grateful, and a generous friend to all who he did not think would abuse that friendship. This character naturally procured that attachment to his person, which has been falsely attributed solely to a corrupt influence and to private

interest; but this showed itself at a time when these principles were very faint in their operation, and when his ruin seemed inevitable.'

"Good temper and equanimity were his leading characteristics, and the placability imprinted on his countenance was not belied by his conduct. Of this disposition, his generous rival, Pulteney, thought so highly, that in a conversation with Johnson, he said, 'Sir Robert was of a temper so calm and equal, and so hard to be provoked, that he was very sure he never felt the bitterest invectives against him for half an hour.'

"His deportment was manly and decisive, yet affable and condescending; he was easy of access; his manner of bestowing a favour heightened the obligation; and his manner of declining was so gracious, that few persons went out of his company discontented.

"Among those parts of his convivial character which have attracted attention, his laugh is noticed for singular gaiety and heartiness. His son familiarly observed to me, 'It would have done you good to hear him laugh.' Sir Charles Hanbury Williams says of him that he '*laugh'd the heart's laugh.*' Nicholas Hardinge elegantly noticed its peculiarity, '*pro prioque vixit seriu risu.*'

"His conversation was sprightly, animating, and facetious, yet occasionally coarse and vulgar, and too often licentious to an unpardonable degree.

"In company with women he assumed an air of gallantry, which even in his younger days was ill suited to his manner and character, but in his latter years was totally incompatible with his age and figure. He affected in his conversation with the sex a trifling levity; but his gaiety was rough and boisterous, his wit too often coarse and licentious.

"If we may believe Lord Chesterfield, who knew him well, but whose pen was dipped in gall when he drew his character, 'His prevailing weakness was to be thought to have a polite and happy turn to gallantry, of which he had undoubtedly less than any man living; it was his favourite and frequent subject of conversation; which proved to those who had any penetration, that it was his prevailing weakness, and they applied to it with success.' Pulteney also said of him,

him, ‘A writer who would tell him of his success in his amours, would gain his confidence in a higher degree than one who commended the conduct of his administration.’ To this foible also a poetaster, after speaking of him under the name of Sir Robert Brats, alludes:—

‘ Nay, to divert the sneering town,
Is next a general lover grown;
Affects to talk of his amours,
And boasts of having ruin’d scores;
While all who hear him bite the lip,
And scarce with pain their laughter keep.’

“ This foible he shared in common with many able men, and particularly with Cardinal Richelieu, who piqued himself more on being a man of gallantry than on being a great minister. It is some consolation for persons of inferior abilities, that men of superior talents are not exempt from the infirmities of human nature; and it is no uncommon circumstance, to prefer flattery on those points in which we wish to excel, to just praise for those in which we are known to excel.

“ He is justly blamed for a want of political decorum, and for deriding public spirit, to which Pope alludes:—

‘ Would he oblige me? let me only find,
He does not think me, what he thinks mankind.’

“ Although it is not possible to justify him, yet this part of his conduct has been greatly exaggerated. The political axiom generally attributed to him, that *all men have their price*, and which has been so often repeated in verse and prose, was perverted by leaving out the word *thoſe*. Flowery oratory he despised; he ascribed to the interested views of themselves or their relatives, the declarations of pretended patriots, of whom he said, ‘All *thoſe men have their price*,’ and in the event, many of them justified his observation. No man was more ready to honour and do justice to sincerity and consistency. He always mentioned his friend the Duke of Devonshire in terms of the highest affection and respect, and even applauded the uniform conduct of one of his constant opponents. ‘I will not say,’ he observed, ‘who is corrupt, but I will say who is not, and that is Shuppen.’

“ His own conduct sufficiently belied the axiom erroneously imputed to him.

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He was consistent and uniform, never deviating in one single instance from his attachment to the Protestant succession. He was neither awed by menaces or swayed by corruption; he held one line of conduct with unabating perseverance, and terminated his political career with the same sentiments of loyalty which distinguished his outset.

“ He was naturally liberal, and even prodigal. His buildings at Houghton were more magnificent than suited his circumstances, and drew on him great obloquy. He felt the impropriety of this expenditure, and on seeing his brother’s house at Wolterton, expressed his wishes that he had contented himself with a similar structure. The following anecdote also shows that he regretted his profusion: sitting by Sir John Hynde Cotton, during the reign of Queen Anne, and in allusion to a sumptuous house which was then building by Harley; he observed, that to construct a great house was a high act of imprudence in any minister. Afterwards, when he had pulled down the family mansion at Houghton, and raised a magnificent edifice, being reminded of that observation by Sir John Hynde Cotton, he readily acknowledged its justness and truth, but added, ‘Your recollection is too late; I with you had reminded me of it before I began building, it might then have been of service to me.’

“ His style of living was consonant to the magnificence of his mansion. He had usually two annual meetings at Houghton: the one in the spring, to which were invited only the most select friends and the leading members of the cabinet, continued about three weeks. The second was in autumn, towards the commencement of the shooting season. It continued six weeks or two months, and was called the congreſs. At this time Houghton was filled with company from all parts. He kept a public table, to which all gentlemen in the county found a ready admission.

“ The expenses of these meetings have been computed at 3,000*l.* Nothing could be more ill-judged than the enormous profusion, except the company for which it was made. The mixed multitude consisted of his friends in both Houses, and of their friends. The noise and uproar, the waste and confusion were prodigious.

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The best friends of Sir Robert Walpole in vain remonstrated against this scene of riot and misrule. As the minister himself was fond of mirth and jollity, the conviviality of their meetings was too frequently carried to excess; and Lord Townshend, whose dignity of deportment and decorum of character revolted against these scenes, which he called the Bacchanalian orgies of Houghton, not unfrequently quitted Rainham during their continuance. But notwithstanding these censures, and the impropriety of such conduct, it undoubtedly gained and preferred to the minister numerous adherents, who applauded a mode of living so analogous to the spirit of ancient hospitality.

" This profusion would have been highly disgraceful had it been attended with a rapacious disposition. On the contrary, he gave many instances of carelessness and disregard of his private fortune. He expended 14,000*l.* in building a new lodge in Richmond Park; and when the King, on the death of Bothmar, in 1733, offered him the house in Downing-street, he refused it as his own property, but accepted it as an appendage to the office of chancellor of the exchequer.

" He was, from his early youth, fond of the diversions of the field, and retained this taste till prevented by the infirmities of age. He was accustomed to hunt in Richmond Park with a pack of beagles. On receiving a packet of letters he usually opened that from his game-keeper first; and he was fond of sitting for his picture in his sporting dress. He was, like Chancellor Oxenstiern, a sound sleeper, and used to say, ' that he put off his cares with his clothes.'

" His social qualities were generally acknowledged. He was animated and lively in conversation, and in the moment of festivity realised the fine eulogium which Pope has given of him :—

- Seen him I have, but in his happier hour
- Of social pleasure, ill-exchang'd for power;
- Seen him, unumber'd with the venal tribe,
- Smile without art, and win without a bribe." —*Epilogue to the Squires.*

" To the virtues of Sir Robert Walpole I feel regret in not being able to add that he was the patron of letters

and the friend of science. But he unquestionably does not deserve that honourable appellation, and in this instance his rank in the Temple of Fame is far inferior to that of Halifax, Oxford, and Bolingbroke. It is matter of wonder that a minister who had received a learned education, and was no indifferent scholar, should have paid such little attention to the muses. Nor can it be denied, that this neglect of men of letters was highly disadvantageous to his administration, and exposed him to great obloquy. The persons employed in justifying his measures, and repelling the attacks of the opposition, were by no means equal to the task of combating Pulteney, Bolingbroke, and Chesterfield, those Go-lials of opposition; and the political pamphlets written in his defence, are far inferior in humour, argument, and style, to the publications of his adversaries.

" The truth is, Sir Robert Walpole did not delight in letters, and always considered poets as not men of business. He was often heard to say, that they were fitter for speculation than for action, that they trusted to theory, rather than to experience, and were guided by principles inadmissible in practical life. His opinion was confirmed by the experience of his own time. Prior made but an indifferent negotiator; his friend Steele was wholly incapable of application, and Addison a miserable secretary of state. He was so fully impressed with these notions, that when he made Congreve commissioner of the customs, he said, ' You will find he has no head for business.'

" Low persons were employed by government, and profusely paid, some of whom not unfrequently propagated in private conversation, and even in public clubs, disadvantageous reports of the minister, and declared that high rewards induced them to write against their real sentiments. Several known disseminators of infidelity were engaged to defend his measures. Many warm remonstrances were frequently made by the minister's friends against employing such low mercenaries, but usually disregarded. Some of these insignificant writers had frequent access to him. Their delusive and encouraging accounts of persons and things, were too often more credited, than the sincere and free intimations of those

who were more capable of giving accurate information. But this seems an error too common in ministers: they prefer favourable accounts to dismal truth, and readily believe what they wish to be true.

" It is a natural curiosity to inquire into the behaviour and occupations of a minister retired from business, and divested of that power which he had long enjoyed. Those who admired his talents, while he swayed senates and governed kingdoms, contemplate him, 'in their mind's eye,' enjoying his retreat with dignity, and passing his leisure hours with calmness and complacency. Yet nothing in general is more unsatisfactory than such an inquiry, or more illusive than such a preconceived opinion. The well-known saying, that ' no man is a hero to his valet de chambre,' may be applied with strict justice to this case. Sir Robert Walpole experienced the truth of the observation, that a fallen minister is like a professed beauty, who has lost her charms, and to whom the recollection of past conquests but poorly compensates for present neglect.

" Though he had not forgotten his classical attainments, he had little taste for literary occupations. He once expressed his regret on this subject to Fox, who was reading in the library at Houghton. ' I wish,' he said, ' I took as much delight in reading as you do, it would be the means of alleviating many tedious hours in my present retirement; but to my misfortune, I derive no pleasure from such pursuits.' —On another occasion, he said to his son Horace, who, with a view to amuse him, was preparing to read some historical performance, ' O! do not read history, for that I know must be false.'

" His principal amusement consisted in planting, observing the growth of his former plantations, and in seeing his son Horace arrange the fine collection of pictures at Houghton. He had a good taste for painting, and his observations on the style of the respective masters were usually judicious.

" A letter which he wrote from Houghton to General Churchill, in 1743, was much admired, as indicating a love of retirement, and contempt of past grandeur. Yet this letter strikes me in a contrary light; it proves that he was weary of that repose which he affected to praise; and that he did

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" This state of mind was natural. Every circumstance must have appeared uninteresting to a man, who from the twenty-third year of his age, had been uniformly engaged in scenes of political exertion, who, from the commencement of his parliamentary career, had passed a life of unremitting activity, and made a conspicuous figure in the senate, and in the cabinet.

" To him who had directed the helm of government in England, and whose decisions affected the interests of Europe in general, all speculative opinions must have appeared dull. To him who had drawn all his knowledge and experience from practice, all theory must have appeared trifling or erroneous. He who had fathomed the secrets of all the cabinets of Europe, must have considered history as a tissue of fables, and have smiled at the folly of those writers, who affected to penetrate into state affairs, and account for all the motives of action. He who had long been the dispenser of honours and wealth, must have perceived a wide difference between the cold expression of duty and friendship, and the warm effusions of that homage which self-interest and hope inspire in those who court or expect favours. He must have been divested of human passions, had he not experienced some mortification in finding that he had been indebted to his situation for

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much of that obsequious regard which he had fondly thought was paid to his personal qualities." P. 755.

(To be continued.)

XLVI. Letters and Correspondence, public and private, of the Right Honourable Henry St. John, Lord Viscount Bolingbroke; during the Time he was Secretary of State to Queen Anne. With State-papers, explanatory Notes, and a Translation of the Foreign Letters, &c. By GILBERT PARKE, Wadh. Col. Oxon. &c. 2 vol. 4to. pp. 1455. 3l. 3s. and 4 vol. 8vo. pp. 2395. 1l. 12s. Robinton.

EXTRACT FROM THE PREFACE.

"**M**OST readers of the following papers will be of opinion, that their internal evidence is proof sufficient of their authenticity; but the editor thinks it his duty to give to the public all the information he has received respecting them.

" When Bolingbroke was dismissed from his office, and fled to France, his under-secretary, Thomas Hare, Esq. who is often mentioned in his Lordship's letters, secured these papers. At that time, Mr. Hare resided in London, and being a younger brother, was possessed of a very small fortune, beside the place of chief clerk, sole examiner and register in chancery, and clerk of the crown and peace in Barbadoes, which offices he held, but whether for life, or during pleasure, is not quite certain; one copy of the appointment, in the hands of the editor, specifying for life, the other during pleasure; the latter is dated June 18, 1714; the former has no date, and, perhaps, was never executed, as the Queen died on the 1st of August following, and it was not probable that the friend of the proscribed secretary would experience any favour from the succeeding administration. Independent of this place, whatever fortune he possessed was lost in the general calamity originating in the South-Sea scheme.

" His elder brother dying unmarried, he, in 1732, succeeded to the noble estate and seat of his family at Stow-Hall, in Norfolk, and to the Baronetage granted to Sir Ralph Hare, in

1641. Thither he then retired, and the Bolingbroke manuscripts were deposited in the evidence-house belonging to the estate, where they remained; and, from the time of his death, in 1760, were little known or noticed.

" To the present worthy possessor of the estate, Thomas Hare, Esq. and the descendant of the under-secretary, the editor, then residing in the neighbourhood of Stow, expressed his wishes to peruse the papers, and upon stating his inclination to publish them, Mr. Hare, in the most liberal and polite manner, sent him the whole of the Bolingbroke papers in his possession.—

" Upon an examination of the manuscripts, many appeared to be autographs, and the remainder in the handwriting of Sir Thomas Hare, or of his colleagues in office. They consisted of four volumes of letters, and very many detached papers. The first volume contained the public dispatches to the Earl of Strafford; the second, the public and private letters to the Marquis de Torcy, with those to and from Mr. Prior; the other two, his public and private letters to correspondents in general. The detached papers consisted of the letters from the Marquis de Torcy, and the entire correspondence with the Duke of Shrewsbury, together with memorials, &c.

" The editor has endeavoured to arrange all these in a regular series, and to supply such explanatory notes as seemed necessary to render characters and occurrences more familiar to the reader. A translation of the foreign letters was not intended, when the book was ready for the press, from a fear of swelling the work to an inordinate size; but, at the suggestion of a friend, whose judgment the editor has ever respected, he was induced to alter his plan; and, by printing the work in a smaller letter than that used in the other volumes of Bolingbroke, and by extending the page of letter-prefs, to give room at the end of each volume for the translation of the preceding letters.

" The present publication consists not only of official, but of private letters of the secretary; the general business of that administration, and his particular sentiments on that business; the orders and instructions of the minister, and the confidential communication of the motives for them. In a word, it

seems

seems to record the political occurrences and history of Great Britain, from the time Bolingbroke came into office until his supercession by the regents; and the reader is not to learn the importance of that period."

EXTRACTS.

LORD BOLINGBROKE (*soon after his Advancement to the Peerage*) TO THE EARL OF STRAFFORD.

"Whitehall, June 23d, 1712.

"I DO so much justice to your merit upon every occasion, and have a heart so warm with zeal for your service, and affection to your person, that whenever you seem but to doubt thereof, or to take umbrage at any loose expression which falls, perhaps too negligently, from my pen, I own I am thoroughly shocked. You and I, my Lord, have been fellow-labourers in the most necessary, but, at the same time, the most difficult and perilous negotiation, that has ever been carried on. I flatter myself that you have discovered constancy in my proceedings, and firmness and sincerity in my temper. Depend upon it, the same character shall be supported by me in my private life, and I will be as resolutely true to the interest of my friend, as to that of my country.

"Your merit in all the late transactions at the army, every creature sees and acknowledges; and I need not mention the reason why I was much more careful in penning my compliment to the Duke of Ormond, than to your Lordship: but enough of this; be assured, once for all, that in me you have a faithful servant, and that no danger, no actual misfortune, could be able to separate me from your Lordship.

"I am to thank you, my Lord, for the very kind part which you took in the honour her Majesty was lately pleased to confer upon me. It would ill become the friendship I profess to you, if I did not naturally own what passes in my soul upon this subject, and confess to you, what I will do to no one else, that my promotion was a

mortification to me. In the House of Commons, I may say, that I was at the head of business, and I must have continued so, whether I had been in court or out of court. There was therefore nothing to flatter my ambition in removing me from thence, but giving me the title which had been many years in my family, and which reverted to the crown about a year ago, by the death of the last of the elder house*. To make me a peer was no great compliment, when so many others were forced to be made to gain a strength in Parliament; and since the Queen wanted me below stairs in the last session, she could do no less than make me a Viscount, or I must have come in the rear of several whom I was not born to follow. Thus far, there seems to be nothing done for my sake, or as a mark of favour to me in particular; and yet farther, her Majesty would not go without a force, which never shall be used by me. I own to you that I felt more indignation than ever in my life I had done; and the only consideration which kept me from running to extremities, was that which should have inclined somebody to use me better†. I knew that any appearance of breach between myself and the Lord Treasurer, would give our common enemies spirit, and if that I declined serving at this conjuncture, the home part of the business would, at least for some time, proceed but lamely. To friendship therefore, and the public good, if I may be pardoned for a vain expression, I sacrificed my private resentment, and remain clothed with as little of the Queen's favour as she could contrive to bestow.

"The other dispatch contains all that can serve to give your Lordship light into our present situation. I shall therefore say no more upon that head but this, that it appears evidently to be the interest of the Queen, as well as of France, to make use of the ill-behaviour of the allies, and to settle our affairs before they come to cry *peccavimus*, and to beg the Queen's intercession, which she cannot refuse without relunctancy, nor grant without

* "The Earldom, granted in 1624, and extinct 1711."

† "Harley, in his Brief Account, says, when the creation of peers took place, December 1711, it was proposed to the secretary that if he would be content to remain in the House of Commons that session, her Majesty would create him a peer, and that he should not lose his rank."

" It is a melancholy consideration that the laws of our country are too weak to punish effectually those factious scribblers, who presume to blacken the brightest characters, and to give even scurrilous language to those who are in the first degrees of honour. This, my Lord, among others, is a symptom of the decayed condition of our government, and serves to show how fatally we mistake licentiousness for liberty. All I could do was to take up Hurt, the printer, to send him to Newgate, and to bind him over upon bail to be prosecuted; this I have done, and if I can arrive at legal proof against the author, Redpath, he shall have the same treatment."

" The Queen went yesterday to Hampton Court, and I think goes this day to Windsor. She is in perfect health; God grant she may long continue so: for my own part, I see nothing but confusion after her. Mr. Harley is very sparing of his letters, but by what he does write, I do not perceive that he makes any great progress in couching the eyes of the blind-court in Europe." *Vd. ii. p. 482.*

LORD BOLINGBROKE TO THE DUKE OF SHREWSBURY (recommending Swift to the Place of Historiographer).

" *Windsor-Castle, January 5th,*
" **MY LORD,** 1713-14.

" MY brother †, the Dean of St. Patrick's, is, you know, an historian, and has brought forth from folios down to duodecimos. We have often talked him up to an undertaking,

* " Hurt was bailed; Redpath, the editor of the Flying Post, was taken up a few days after. It appears by a letter of the former, that to make his peace with government, he promised to send the communications he should receive from the country, to the secretary's office. In the following year, a Mr. Bonet offered proposals for a patent to the following effect: to have the sole liberty of printing all advertisements, except such as shall be printed in the London Gazette; he alleges that the profit arising from advertisements, is the great encouragement to printers of newspapers, and that if that benefit were taken from them, most of them would cease to print, by which means a great deal of scandalous reflections, &c. would be prevented. He proposes to print every day a paper called the Daily Advertiser, the price of each advertisement 3s. 6d. viz. 1s. for the duty, and 2s. 6d. for the publisher. Bonet's paper is dated 19th August 1713."

† " Swift was a member of the club of Brothers."

‡ " This place, however, was given away to another person: The ministers were now disunited: Oxford was losing ground, which Bolingbroke was gaining, in the Queen's favour; and Shrewsbury, honest and independent, was disgusted with both."

which it is some degree of shame to our nation was never yet performed as it ought to be, and which I believe he is fitter for than any man in the Queen's dominions: I mean the writing a complete history of our own country. Rymer's death creates an opportunity of making this his duty, if your Grace will be so good as to befall the place of Historiographer upon him ‡.

" I submit this to your Grace's good pleasure, assuring you that in the position which I presume to make, I have the public much more in view than Jonathan. I am, &c.

Vol. iv. p. 420.

" B."

LORD BOLINGBROKE TO THE EARL OF STRAFFORD (on the State of Parties, &c.).

" **MY LORD,** July 14th, 1714.

" I WAS beginning to write, when yours of the 20th, N.S. came to my hands.

" You will not wonder at my complaints of want of time, when I tell you, that for several weeks before the session of Parliament rose, there were new plots, day after day, concerting against me; and that those, in the service of whom I have drudged these fifteen years, were the propellers of new confederacies, the cement of which was to be my ruin. This, my Lord, is the treatment I have met with; and the only crime, by which the malice that acted these things can pretend to say, I ever deserved them, is this, when the Queen's affairs were come by slow, but long observed steps, into the utmost confusion; when

party

party which was at our feet, had been nurled up and rendered formidable; when the party that only could support us, was under the utmost dissatisfaction, some of them taking part against us, others cool and indifferent spectators; in a word, when every man, who looked on, agreed that we could not carry the busines of the fession round, then I presumed, among others, to beg of one man, Lord Oxford, as a friend, that he would alter his conduct, and to reprent to the Queen, as a faithful servant, that her government was at the brink of destruction.

"I do not wonder at what you write concerning Van Hulst. The same person who employed him formerly, employs him, I suppose, now, and the language he holds in Holland, is the same, as the same person's emissaries and new friends, the Whigs, hold here: such insinuations as these, have been made to the Lords, and they run into a long examination, expecting to dicover mighty things; at last they found nothing, but what made them ashamed of their proceedings*.

"As to your Lordship's letters to me, they all remain among my private papers, and neither Van Hulst, nor any other person, can possibly arrive at the sight of them. Nothing is more faceted with me, than the rules of friendship, and I should look on myself as the last of men, if your private correspondence had paffed into any hands but my own, by my fault. I value myself as I am your relation and your friend, and I will awnser both these characters, as a man of honour ought to do in every instance, and in every circumstance of life. I never spoke to Van Hulst five times in my life, and I dare say, it is not less than two years since I have been in a room with him.

"Lord Marlborough's people gave out that he is coming over, and I take it for granted that he is so; whether on account of the ill figure he makes abroad, or the good one he hopes to make at home, I shall not determine,

but I have reason to think, that some people (meaning Oxford), who would rather move heaven and earth, than either part with their power, or make a right use of it, have lately made overtures to him, and have entered into some degree of concert with his creatures.

"My dear Lord, the Queen's affairs are in a deplorable state, by that glorious management, with which, it seems, no man must presume to find fault; we are fallen into contempt abroad, into confusion at home; with a vast majority of the nation on our side, we are insulted by the minority; and with the merit of having made a good and popular peace, we are reproached by those who lie under the guilt of attempting to prolong a ruinous war. It is a great while since I have thought that this could never be, was not our leader in a secret with our enemy; and I believe that there is hardly a Whig or Tory in Britain, that is not of the same opinion.

"What the Queen will do to extricate herself from these difficulties (and she alone can save herself), I do not know. This I know, that there is no danger, no labour I decline to serve her, except one, which is, that of trutling the same conduct a fifth year, which has deceived herself these four years.

"Go on as you do, and hug yourself, my dear Lord, that you are at a distance from these scenes of folly and knavery; a few days will decide of a great deal: as soon as I am certain, you shall be fo too.

"Adieu, my Lord: ever, from the bottom of my heart, your faithful and affectionate friend, kinfman, and fervant." Vol. iv. p. 562.

XLVII. *Tracts relating to Natural History.* By JAMES EDWARD SMITH, M. D. F. R. S. &c. &c. 8vo. pp. 312. With Six coloured

* "This probably relates to the following circumstance:

"Some time before the meeting of Parliament, a forged letter, said to have been written by the Duke of Lorain to her Majesty, had been circulated; in which the Duke, after bestowing high encomiums on the Pretender, declines a compliance with her Majesty's wishes, to send him out of the territories of Lorain. This encouraged the Whig Lords to move an address to her Majesty, for the letters which had paffed between the Bishop of London and the Baron le Begue, envoy of Lorain. Upon which the letters were produced, and the expectations of the party fell to the ground."

Plates, and One uncoloured. 7s.
White.

LIST OF PLATES.

- FRUCTIFICATIONS of Ferns.**
Sprengelia incarnata.
Westringia rosmariniformis.
Boronia pinnata.
——— *ferrulata.*
——— *parciflora.*
——— *polygalifolia.*

CONTENTS.

I. REFLECTIONS on the Study of Nature. Translated from the Latin of the celebrated Linnæus. Prefixed to his *Museum Regis*.

II. Discourse on the Rise and Progress of Natural History. Read at the Opening of the Linnæan Society, April 8, 1788.

III. Observations on the Irritability of Vegetables. From the Philosophical Transactions for 1788.

IV. Review of Mr. Curtis's Botanical Magazine, or Flower Garden displayed. From the Analytical Review, vol. iii. for January 1789.

V. Review of a Synopsis of the Natural History of Great Britain and Ireland; by John Berkenhout, M. D. From the Analytical Review, vol. iii. for March 1789.

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X. Description of a new Genus

of Plants called *Sprengelia*. First published in Swedish, in the Transactions of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm for 1794.

XI. Description of a new Genus of Plants called *Westringia*. Lately published in Swedish, in the Transactions of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm.

XII. Description of a new Genus of Plants called *Boronia*. Now first published; with some Particulars of the Death of Francis Borone.

EXTRACTS.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW GENUS OF PLANTS CALLED BORONIA.

"THE country of New Holland, so rich in botanical novelties, has made us acquainted with several new genera of M. de Jussieu's natural order of *Rutacee*, which promise to contribute very considerably to the ornament of our green-houses. These plants are in many respects allied to *Digamma*, and like that genus their flowers are beautiful, and their foliage highly aromatic, though not always pleasantly so. In some instances the scent of the flowers is very agreeable. No genus among the whole tribe is more worthy of notice than that to which I have given the name of *Boronia*.

"*Boronia* is most allied to *Digammus* and *Digamma*, but the leaves of every species being opposite, prevent its being arranged near the former, as the order is now subdivided in M. de Jussieu's work. In fact, a much better distribution of these genera may probably be contrived when more of them are discovered and defined.

"Four species only of the genus in question have hitherto been detected among the dried specimens collected near Port Jackson, by Mr. White; and only one of those, the *Boronia pinnata*, has been introduced into our gardens.

"The genus here for the first time described, is intended to preserve the memory of a martyr to the science, whose indefatigable zeal and singular acuteness would soon have procured him other claims to such an honour, had his premature fate been postponed. *Francis Borone* was born at Milan,

April

April 6, 1769. An active inquiring mind led him at an early age from his native country; and his talents, under the influence of a person he esteemed and respected, were easily turned to natural history. His accuracy of discrimination, with regard not only to the appearance, but even the technical characters, of plants, has not often been exceeded. His ardour kept pace with his abilities. After overcoming difficulties apparently insurmountable at Sierra Leone with Mr. Afzelius, he attended the late Professor Sibthorp to Greece. The highest patronage awaited him in his own country; but he was anxious to deserve rather than to obtain it, for he never by his own fault disappointed any expectations that were formed of his head or his heart. At length Providence in its wisdom disposed of him otherwise, for he died by an accidental fall at Athens, on or about the 20th of October 1794."

P. 301.

SONNET

To Dr. Smith on the Genus Boronia, by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. F.L.S.

* YON Flower, mild patron of the hapless Youth,
To distant times shall guard BORONE's name:
Thy friendship, guided by the voice of Truth,
Hath given to humble worth its modest claim.

So Phœbus, skill'd in all the forms that breathe.
Their balmy sweets, in richest hues array'd,
Griev'd at lost Hyacinth's disastrous death,
Inscrib'd a blossom to his gentle shade.
From the struck lyre, in melancholy strain,
All softly trembled a celestial tone,
That, breathing rapture o'er the list'ning plain,
Call'd from the verdant soil a plant unknown;
And, sad memorial of the fatal hour!
Rais'd, to record his name, a purple flower." P. 306.

LETTER

From the late Dr. John Sibthorp, Professor of Botany in the University of Oxford, VOL. II.—No. V.

to Dr. Smith; dated Athens, Nov. 1, 1794.

" My dear Sir,

" I SHOULD have been happy to have sent you a pleasant letter from Athens; but from Athens I must this time write you a very mournful one. Poor Borone is no more! He was quite recovered from an intermittent fever, that had attacked him a little before his departure from Constantinople; and on the evening of his unhappy fate was unusually gay, singing to a tune that Arakiel, Mr. Hawkins's servant, played upon the guitar. A little after midnight we were waked out of our sleep by the cries of Francesco, who had fallen into the street, out of the window of the chamber where he slept with Arakiel. On the servants going down to him, he languishingly groaned to Arakiel, who was the first that came up to him, ' Ah! povero Francesco e morto!' — James, the other servant of Mr. Hawkins, then coming up, he said, ' Ah! James, James!' and expired.

" As soon as Mr. Hawkins and myself heard that Francesco was hurt by his fall, we immediately got up, and went down to him. On taking him by the hand, I found the pulse gone, and no signs of life. We directly got him into the house, and attempted to bleed him, but without effect. His loins and back, on which he appeared to have fallen, were very much bruised; but there was not the least appearance of blood, nor could I find that any bones were broken. It had rained very hard on the preceding day, so that the street was dirty: the night was dark, with frequent flashes of lightning. The opening of the window out of which he fell was extremely narrow, and appears not above eighteen feet from the ground. To get out of it, he must previously have mounted on a box that stood near it, and then squeezed himself through it. We have every reason to think all this was done in his sleep. On the opposite side of the room to this window was another, that opened upon a terrace, on which he was accustomed to walk. Perhaps, if awake, which I can scarcely conceive, he had forgotten which of the two windows led to the terrace.

" You may imagine that after this we passed the remainder of the night dismal enough. The next day nothing

C c

nothing remained but to perform the last offices to poor Francesco. He was buried in the evening at the church of the Madonna, under the shade of a mulberry-tree. The obsequies were performed in a very decent manner by four Greek priests, who chanted over him the burial service. Mr. Hawkins and myself, the British Consul, and some Slavonians who were here, with the servants, attended the corpse. The Archbiishop, who a few days before had expressed the strongest obligations to the English nation, pitifully sent a Papas to demand fifty piastres (about twelve pounds) for his permission to bury him. The Consul remonstrated with him on the impropriety and exorbitancy of the demand; when he sent a second message to say he would take half that sum. This produced another remonstrance from the Consul, when he repented, and refused to take any thing. He has since sent us a hint that he would be glad of a present. We mean to send him a Greek Testament, that a Metropolitan, who has four suffragans, may read a lesson of piety.

"I regret with you most sincerely the cruel end of this unfortunate youth. He had escaped from the thieves of Italy and the inhospitable climate of Sierra Leone. He had been with me blocked up eight days by pirates at Mount Athos. Poor fellow! he was then very anxious to hide my money, that we might have something, he said, to return home with.

"I shall set off in two or three days for Zante, where I shall winter. In January I propose to visit with Hawkins the Morea, and in the spring, or early in the summer, to return to Eng-

land. I have made considerable additions to my collection of Greek plants and animals, having visited the Bithynian Olympus, Troy, Lemnos, Mount Athos, and Negropont. During my stay at Athens I have procured a pretty exact knowledge of the agriculture and natural history of Attica.—Tell our friends in Soho Square, that I have all the labour, if not all the sweets of an Attic bee.

"J. SIBTHORP."

" WHILE I am collecting these melancholy memorials, I might, as the Poet says,

- The verse, begun to one lost friend,
prolong,
- And weep another in th' unfinish'd
song.'

"The writer of the above letter is now no more!—A long and uncomfortable passage of twenty-four days from Zante to Otranto, as he himself expressed it in a subsequent letter, laid the foundation of a complaint in the lungs (more especially as he had caught a severe cold in an excursion to Nicopolis near Actium), which some months after his return to England proved fatal. His death was soon followed by that of the Hon. Mr. Wenman, one of his executors, and an excellent botanist; under whose care the publication of Dr. Sibthorp's Grecian discoveries might have made some progress before the return of his other executor, Mr. Hawkins, who is still abroad, and whose eminent talents and zeal can now alone secure to the public any fruits from this ill-fated expedition." P. 306.

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